

Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018

Infrastructure and Regional Development

Committee Question Number: 01

Departmental Question Number: SQ17-000169

Program: n/a

Division/Agency: Corporate Services

Topic: Secretary Remuneration

Proof Hansard Page: 41 (22 May 2017)

Senator Roberts, Malcolm asked:

Senator ROBERTS: ... Mr Mrdak, what is your remuneration per year? Australians would like to know that.

Mr Mrdak: Yes, my remuneration is set by the Remuneration Tribunal. It is \$620,000 per annum.

Senator ROBERTS: That is all-inclusive—all entitlements?

Mr Mrdak: I can get you the details of it—I think that is my pay remuneration. On top of that, there would be superannuation.

Senator ROBERTS: If you could get me the total then, please.

Mr Mrdak: Certainly. It is published by the Remuneration Tribunal. It is publicly available, Senator. I am at a certain band in the secretary's level, but my remuneration is of that order.

Answer:

Please refer to <http://remtribunal.gov.au/offices/secretaries>.

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Infrastructure and Regional Development

Committee Question Number: 02

Departmental Question Number: SQ17-000170

Program: n/a

Division/Agency: Corporate Services

Topic: Indigenous Procurement

Proof Hansard Page: 78 (22 May 2017)

Senator McCarthy, Malarndirri asked:

Senator Nash: It is certainly there. If I can add: as you would well know, the Indigenous Procurement Policy is now at 708 businesses with \$407 million in government contracts. That is a significant increase. Back in 2012 it was about \$6.2 million, so that has been a significant achievement in terms of how much we have done.

Senator McARTHUR: Sure. Of the 708 businesses, how many of them are in the Northern Territory as part of these projects?

Senator Nash: I do not have that information, but I can find that out for you.

Answer:

The Department of Finance will need to provide a response to this question as the department does not have access to this information.

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Committee Question Number: 03

Departmental Question Number: SQ17-000171

Program: n/a

Division/Agency: Corporate Services

Topic: Labour Hire

Proof Hansard Page: 95 (22 May 2017) and 59 (23 May 2017)

Senator Sterle, Glenn asked:

Senator STERLE: I will put it to you, Mr Mrdak, but also to the officers here: do you use labour hire? Do you employ labour hire firms anywhere throughout the department?

Mr Mrdak: Yes, we do.

Senator STERLE: Tremendous. What I would like to know, then, is would you like to give me a breakdown on each agency: how many are employed, what are the companies—I do not want to know the names of the people; that is not my business—and the number of those on a permanent basis or a part-time basis or whatever. What is the easy way, Mr Mrdak? Do want me to ask each agency and you?

Mr Mrdak: No, I am happy, on behalf of all of the portfolio agencies, to take on notice to give you the firms of contractors we utilise and the numbers of contractors, perhaps over the last 12 months.

Senator STERLE: Yes, please, at least, and particularly where they are and what they are doing—that sort of stuff. We are here all day tomorrow. Can you have that available through your office?

...

Senator STERLE: Why don't we do that, Mr Mrdak? I raised the question about the use of labour hire through the department and all the agencies. How did you go with some info coming back to me on that?

Mr Mrdak: I am hopeful to get, by the close of the committee, the department's use of hire. We will have the agencies, but I probably will not have the agencies for you before the hearing concludes tonight. I will take that on notice.

Answer:

Please refer to [Attachment A](#).

Attachments

- [Attachment A](#) – Labour hire

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Attachment A

1st May 2016 to 30th April 2017

Total Number of Labour Hire staff employed for period	Labour Hire Companies used	Break up of Part-time and Full-time Labour Hire contracts	Which areas of the department/agency were they hired to work in?	What were they hired to do?
Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development				
238	Chandler Macleod Group Limited DFP Recruitment Services Gel Gov Group Pty Ltd Gillian Beaumont Recruitment Pty Limited Hays Specialist Recruitment (Aust) HorizonOne Recruitment Pty Ltd Kowalski Recruitment Pty Ltd Onpoint365 Programmed Professionals Pty Ltd Randstad Pty Ltd	The Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development is unable to provide a break-up without an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources	Corporate Services Division Infrastructure Investment Division Local Government and Territories Division Office of Transport Security Division Policy and Research Division Surface Transport Policy Division Western Sydney Unit	Nature of work performed by labour hire staff is administrative.
Airservices Australia				
94	Clicks Recruit Pty Ltd GMT People Pty Ltd Hudson Global Resources (Australia) Pty Ltd Ignite Services Pty Ltd JCS Recruitment and Consulting Services Pty Ltd t/a Inventra Randstad Pty Ltd Talent International Holdings Pty Ltd	No. PT = 3 No. FT = 91	Air Navigation Services Corporate Services Information Management and Technology OneSKY Program Projects and Engineering	Administrative Business Analysis Information and Communications Technology Services – strategic, expert and general Project Management

Australian Maritime Safety Authority

<p>84</p>	<p>Koomarri Association ACT Inc Dimension Data Australia Pty Ltd Jebel Consultant Group StarTech IT Consulting Pty Ltd Talent International (ACT) Pty Ltd Finite Group APAC Pty Ltd Techpoint Consulting Pty Ltd Randstad Pty Ltd Hays Specialist Recruitment (Aust) Hudson Global Resources (Aust) Pty Ltd Clarius Group Ltd t/a The One Umbrella Chandler Macleod Group Limited With It Solutions HiTech Personnel M&T Resources Onicol Enterprises Pty Ltd Online 89 Pty Ltd Talent International (ACT) Pty Ltd Oakton Contracting and Recruitment Pty Ltd Clicks IT Recruitment RPV Consultants Pty Ltd Horizon One Recruitment Pty Ltd Breson Consulting Pty Ltd Adaps Pty Ltd Berwick Consulting Pty Ltd Computer Integrated Services and Solutions Pty Ltd HR Connexions Pty Ltd</p>	<p>No. PT = 25 No. FT = 59</p>	<p>Office of the Deputy Chief Executive Officer Corporate Services Operations Division Response Division Standards Division</p>	<p>Administration Project Management Architect and Designer (web based) Web Communications Customer Service Java and Mathematical Specialist Business Analyst Maritime Technical Presenter Training Information Technology Heritage Officer Maintenance Management Engagement Advisor Commercial Support, AMSA Asset Capability Cost Recovery Assessor</p>
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	Tomdaw Management Pty Ltd			
Australian Transport Safety Bureau				
2	APUS Business Solutions Pty Ltd Finite Group APAC Pty Ltd	No. PT = 0 No. FT = 2	Legal Services/ICT Services Operational search for MH370	Administrative - 1 x Staff for Scribing & Report writing services in relation to First Principles review MH370 Administrative - 1 x Staff for Records Management Services
Civil Aviation Safety Authority				
141	Aurec Human Capital Sourcing Callida Consulting Chandler Macleod Group Limited Clarius Group Limited (t/a Ignite) Clicks Recruit Pty Ltd Converga Pty Ltd Cubic Resources Pty Ltd DFP Recruitment Services Pty Ltd as Trustee for the DFP Business Trust Drake Australia Pty Ltd Entertainment Personnel Pty Ltd GMT Canberra Pty Ltd (ta GMT People) Greythorn Pty Ltd Grove IT Pty Ltd Hays Specialist Recruitment Services (Australia) Pty Ltd Horizon One Recruitment Pty Ltd Hudson Global Resources (Aust) Pty Ltd	The Civil Aviation Safety Authority is unable to provide a break-up without an unreasonable diversion of resources	Aviation Group Stakeholder Engagement Group Sustainability Group Strategy, Quality & Intelligence Branch Finance Branch	Project Management and administration ICT Technical roles

	McArthur (QLD) Pty Ltd Peoplebank Australia Ltd (ACT) Programmed Professionals Randstad Pty Limited UXC Connect Pty Ltd			
Infrastructure Australia				
7	Hays Specialist Recruitment (Aust) Hudson	No. PT = 2 No. FT = 5	Corporate Services Project Advisory Governance and Board	Administrative work across: Finance Project Management Contract Management Procurement Human Resources Governance
National Capital Authority				
8	Hays Specialist Recruitment (Aust)	No. PT = 6 No. FT = 2	National Capital Authority	Reception cover (ad hoc cover for reception duties while substantive occupant(s) was on leave); and Information Management project duties (file audit and storage re-location).
National Transport Commission				
11	Hays Specialist Recruitment (Aust) Alliance Recruitment Staite Henningsen Klein Watermark Search International	No. PT = 2 No. FT = 9	Executive Projects Corporate	Nature of work performed by labour hire staff is administrative.

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Infrastructure and Regional Development

Committee Question Number: 04

Departmental Question Number: SQ17-000172

Program: n/a

Division/Agency: Corporate Services

Topic: Plutus Payroll

Proof Hansard Page: 125 (23 May 2017)

Senator McCarthy, Malarndirri asked:

Senator McCARTHY: No. I was just curious to see if you might have had anything extra on that. Mr Mrdak. I have a got a list here that I want to put to you. You may want to take this on notice or you may want to answer.

Mr Mrdak: I am happy to take it on notice. I will try and answer—we are trying to develop those lists that Senator Sterle asked for.

Senator McCARTHY: I have just got a list as well. Do any of these labour hire companies use Plutus? I can read through them, if you would like.

Mr Mrdak: Yes.

Senator McCARTHY: Has the department undertaken its own investigation into the use of Plutus by labour hire companies? When did the department become aware that there was a problem with Plutus in connection with the department? When was the minister advised? What steps have been taken to avoid a repeat, and are there other payroll companies operating as agents of IT and other contractors? How much Commonwealth money is being directed through payroll companies?

Mr Mrdak: I will take those on notice. I think, like most people, we became aware of the issue with the media coverage of the Australian Federal Police actions last week. Since that time, we have not had a chance to review those companies that may be involved and the implications. But, in the light of your questions, I will undertake that and come back to you with answers.

Answer:

The Department contacted all labour hire firms that it engaged for labour hire services and all have confirmed that no contractors sourced via labour hire to the Department have been affected by issues relating to Plutus Payroll.

In addition, the Department procures labour hire services through established Australian Whole-of-Government panel arrangements meaning the risk of an incident in the future is low.

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Infrastructure and Regional Development

Committee Question Number: 05

Departmental Question Number: SQ17-000279

Program: n/a

Division/Agency: Corporate Services

Topic: Market Research

Proof Hansard Page: Written (2 June 2017)

Senator Farrell, Don asked:

1. For the 2016-17 financial year, what was the total amount spent by the Department on market research (either as a whole contract or as part of a contract)?
2. For each contract for market research in 2016/2017, can you please provide:
 - a. The subject of the market research;
 - b. The supplier;
 - c. Whether the supplier has been engaged previously and if so, for which contracts;
 - d. The total value of the contract;
 - e. The term of the contract (time);
 - f. The date that the decision was taken to seek market research on the topic;
 - g. The date the contract was opened to tender or selection process;
 - h. The date the supplier was engaged;
 - i. Whether the contract was subject to a tender process, including whether there was a full, partial or closed tender process;
 - j. Does the supplier exist on a pre-approved supplier list, if so, when were they added to that list;
 - k. Whether the Minister, or the Minister's Office, requested that the research be conducted;
 - l. Whether the Minister approved the decision to conduct market research;
 - m. Whether the Minister approved the contract with the supplier;
 - n. Whether the Minister or the Minister's office was consulted on questions asked;
 - o. Whether the Minister or the Minister's office received a copy of the market research;
 - p. If the decision to conduct research was initiated by the department or agency, was the Minister or their office consulted before the decision was taken to conduct research, if so – in what form did that consultation take (written, verbal other);
 - q. If the decision to conduct research was initiated by the department or agency, did Minister or their office make any amendments or changes to the Department's proposal for market research to be conducted, if so, what changes and to what aspects were they made;
 - r. At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research were other departments or agencies consulted?
 - s. At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research were other Ministers, or the Prime Minister consulted?
 - t. At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research did the expected cost change, if so how?
 - u. At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research did the scope, questions or supplier of the research change?
 - v. Have any topics or questions of market research been conducted and subsequently conducted again by the same or different supplier?

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Answer:

1. \$252,861

2. **RESPONSE 1:**

- a. Benchmarking and tracking research Building Our Future.
- b. Wallis Consulting.
- c. No.
- d-i. This information is available on Austender.
- j. This question should be referred to the Department of Finance.
- k. Approval to undertake market research was provided by the Service Delivery Coordination Committee of Cabinet.
- l. No.
- m. No.
- n. No.
- o. The Minister received a summary report of the market research.
- p. In writing.
- q. No.
- r. No.
- s. The Service Delivery Coordination Committee of Cabinet.
- t. No.
- u. No.
- v. No.

RESPONSE 2:

- a. Road user awareness of the costs of road transport services.
- b. Colmar Brunton.
- c. No.
- d-i. This information is available on Austender.
- j. Yes. The Market and Social Research Panel from the Department of Human Services.
- k. No.
- l. No.
- m. No.
- n. No.
- o. No.
- p. No.
- q. No.
- r. No.
- s. No.
- t. No.
- u. No.
- v. No.

RESPONSE 3:

- a. Benchmark and evaluation services.
- b. GFK Australia.
- c. No.
- d-i. This information is available on Austender.
- j. Yes. Whole-of-Government Communications Multi-Use List (CMUL 12/2008)
- k. No.
- l. No.
- m. No.
- n. No.
- o. Yes.
- p. No.
- q. No.

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- r. Yes.
- s. No.
- t. Yes, by the Department extending the time and scope of the contract.
- u. Yes.
- v. Yes, as part of a longitudinal study.

RESPONSE 4:

- a. Evaluation and media research services.
- b. AMR Interactive Pty Ltd.
- c. No.
- d-i. This information is available on Austender.
- j. Yes. Whole-of-Government Communications Multi-Use List (CMUL 12/2008)
- k. No.
- l. No.
- m. No.
- n. No.
- o. No.
- p. No.
- q. No.
- r. Yes.
- s. No.
- t. Yes, by the Department scheduling additional focus groups for the quantitative research.
- u. Yes.
- v. No.