

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 131

**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates

**Outcome:** Corporate

**Programme:** Corporate Strategies Division

**Topic:** Portfolio Wide – Consultancies

**Hansard Page:** N/A

**Question Date:** 27 November 2013

**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Ludwig asked:**

- a) How many consultancies have been undertaken from 7 September 2013 to date? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies.
- b) How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.

**Answer:**

1. All consultancies at or over \$10,000 for Financial Management and Accountability Act (FMA) agencies and \$400,000 for Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act (CAC) agencies (inc GST) are published on AusTender in alignment with mandatory reporting requirements. Details of these consultancies can be found at [www.tenders.gov.au](http://www.tenders.gov.au)

Under contract reporting requirements set out in the Commonwealth Procurement Rules, FMA agencies and CAC agencies are not required to individually identify contracts under the abovementioned thresholds and therefore do not record this information.

2. All known future consultancies have been published in the Annual Procurement Plan (APP) in June 2013 and where it is known, the description, category, approximate date of the approach to market and any other relevant data on the potential engagement is included in the APP.

The APP for the department can be found at:

<https://www.tenders.gov.au/?event=public.APP.view.downloadSpreadsheet&category=&dateStart=&orderBy=Estimated%20Date%20of%20Approach%20to%20Market&startRow=0&APPUUID=882F5819%2DDA44%2D29E0%2DBBC441C147BCA3297&status=&dateEnd=>

The APP for the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust can be found at:

<https://www.tenders.gov.au/?event=public.APP.view.downloadSpreadsheet&category=&dateStart=&orderBy=Estimated%20Date%20of%20Approach%20to%20Market&startRow=0&APPUUID=7E561BC8%2DFBB4%2DDDB8C%2D420DD7048EC89044&status=&dateEnd=>

The APP for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority can be found at:

<https://www.tenders.gov.au/?event=public.APP.view.downloadSpreadsheet&category=&dateStart=&orderBy=Estimated%20Date%20of%20Approach%20to%20Market&startRow=0&APPUUID=55739193%2DCDA0%2DE82D%2DF31FE4F1983192F7&status=&dateEnd=>

The APP for the National Water Commission can be found at:

<https://www.tenders.gov.au/?event=public.APP.view.downloadSpreadsheet&category=&dateStart=&orderBy=Estimated%20Date%20of%20Approach%20to%20Market&startRow=0&APPUUID=7F0E2744%2D9005%2DF5A6%2DE7CCC771E423D4D0&status=&dateEnd=>

The APP for the Bureau of Meteorology can be found at:

<https://www.tenders.gov.au/?event=public.APP.view.downloadSpreadsheet&category=&dateStart=&orderBy=Estimated%20Date%20of%20Approach%20to%20Market&startRow=0&APPUUID=78CF9EA9%2D93F2%2D187D%2D2EF16C01A37FA0AA&status=&dateEnd=>

The APP for the Murray Darling Basin Authority can be found at:

<https://www.tenders.gov.au/?event=public.APP.view.downloadSpreadsheet&category=&dateStart=&orderBy=Estimated%20Date%20of%20Approach%20to%20Market&startRow=0&APPUUID=88664B8E%2DD544%2D41B3%2D9F1BCE0BF36D6E18&status=&dateEnd=>

The APP for the Director of National Parks can be found at:

<https://www.tenders.gov.au/?event=public.APP.view.downloadSpreadsheet&category=&dateStart=&orderBy=Estimated%20Date%20of%20Approach%20to%20Market&startRow=0&APPUUID=7DED7DAD%2D9034%2D8864%2D76D52FED57E261BA&status=&dateEnd=>

3. Annual Procurement Plans are 'rolling plans' which are updated throughout the year as consultancy requirements often change in accordance with business requirements. Consultancies included in the APP will include information such as the description, service category, approximate date of the approach to market and any other relevant data where known in advance of any potential engagement.

The department and portfolio agencies have an increased focus on constraining consultancies by minimising the use of consultants to specialist expertise only.