

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

Question No: 157

Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates

Outcome: Corporate

Programme: Corporate Strategies Division

Topic: Portfolio Wide – Contracts – External Contracts

Hansard Page: N/A

Question Date: 18 November 2013

Question Type: Written

Senator Urquhart asked:

Do you have any people working in the department (or agency) as external contractors, who aren't included in the head count in the annual report? How many? What work are they undertaking? Do you expect this number to change? How?

Answer:

The Department and portfolio agencies use external contractors in limited circumstances and these resources are not included in the head count in the annual report. The Department and portfolio agencies engage these contractors through service providers and do not have a centralised database of such arrangements. Details of contractor resources could only be ascertained from a manual review of filed individual invoices. This would require a significant diversion of resources and would not be guaranteed to provide the requested information due to different invoicing practices of contracted companies.