

## Senate Finance and Public Administration References Committee

### Inquiry into Consulting Services, received 18 July

### KPMG Australia responses to Questions on Notice from Senator Deborah O'Neill

#### *Introduction*

- 1 KPMG continues to engage constructively with the Senate Finance and Public Administration References Committee's Inquiry into the management and assurance of integrity by consulting services.
- 2 The Committee should be assured KPMG understands the importance of the issues canvassed by the Inquiry and appreciates the ongoing opportunity to work with the Committee on these matters.

#### *Questions on Notice*

- Q. *It was reported by the Australian Financial Review on 16 February 2023 that KPMG intended to dismiss approximately 200 staff from its Australian operation. Can you please confirm how many staff were made redundant from, dismissed by, or asked to leave KPMG in 2023 up to the current date. Please indicate the date that the decision to dismiss these staff was made, in addition to the date that employees were made aware of their redundancies/dismissals. Please also provide the roles of staff members dismissed during this period.***
- Q. *If applicable, please provide a copy of the written notice in which KPMG informed the Chief Executive Officer of the Commonwealth Services Delivery Agency of the relevant dismissals.***

#### *KPMG Response*

- 3 In February 2023, plans for potential redundancies at KPMG were reported in the media<sup>1</sup>. On 1 March 2023, consistent with section 530(1) of the *Fair Work Act 2009* (and in the prescribed form accessible on the Services Australia [website](#)), KPMG identified a number of proposed redundancies in a written notice to the Chief Executive of Services Australia.
- 4 Following the written notice, KPMG decided to proceed with making a number of roles redundant. After appropriate consultation and exploration of redeployment opportunities, fewer individuals were impacted than was proposed in the written notice.
- 5 All individuals whose roles were made redundant were offered confidential counselling support through KPMG's employee assistance program provider and career transition outplacement support provided by an expert third-party.
- 6 A copy of the written notice (which includes affected individuals' job classifications, seniority and primary office of work) is **attached** to this response. KPMG respectfully requests that the Committee not publish the written notice due to reasons related to privacy and commercial sensitivity.
- 7 In total, 203 individuals have been made redundant by KPMG in 2023.

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<sup>1</sup> [KPMG to cut about 200 Australian staff amid slowdown in consulting work \(afr.com\)](#)