

# **Senate Finance and Public Administration References Committee**

Inquiry into the management and assurance of integrity by consulting services (Consulting services)

## **Department of Finance**

### **Response to Question on Notice**

#### **Written Question on Notice (Senator B Pocock)**

1. Is an individual partner or the whole consultancy the responsible party under a MAS Panel contract?
2. Provide the name, job title and organisation or department of all individuals on the Tender Evaluation Team, which was established to assess tenders for the MAS Panel.
3. The Department of Finance's web page on the MAS Panel refers to a "Performance Management Framework." Provide details of this framework, including the framework itself.

#### **Response**

1. Generally, under the Management Advisory Services (MAS) Panel arrangements, the Head Agreement is between the Australian Government, as represented by the Department of Finance (Finance) and the Service Provider, as represented by its legal entity.

Where the consultancy firm is a partnership (other than an incorporated limited partnership), contracts created under it are legally binding on all members of the partnership (i.e. all partners).

2. The MAS Panel was established in three phases, with a separate Tender Evaluation Team appointed for each phase. A Director (EL2) from Finance chaired each Tender Evaluation Team.

In total, 94 representatives from the following 22 Commonwealth entities formed the three tender evaluation teams:

1. Australian Energy Regulator
2. Australian Government Solicitor
3. Australian Taxation Office

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4. Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
5. Department of Defence
6. Department of Education
7. Department of Finance
8. Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
9. Department of Health and Aged Care
10. Department of Home Affairs
11. Department of Industry, Science and Resources
12. Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communication, and the Arts
13. Department of Social Services
14. Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
15. Department of the Treasury
16. Department of Veterans Affairs
17. Digital Transformation Agency
18. National Disability and Insurance Agency
19. Infrastructure Australia
20. Productivity Commission
21. Royal Australian Mint
22. Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

Finance has adopted a policy to generally exclude the names and contact details of non-SES officers from any publicly released information.

3. A copy of the MAS Panel Head Agreement is publicly available on the Finance website at: [MAS Panel Head Agreement - February 2022.pdf \(finance.gov.au\)](https://www.finance.gov.au/mas-panel-head-agreement-february-2022.pdf)

The “Performance Management Framework” is located at Schedule 7 – Performance Management Framework and Service Levels, starting at page 74 of the document and ending on page 77.