

Defence Portfolio

INQUIRY QUESTION

(Question No.1-4)

Senator Barbara Pocock asked the Department of Defence the following question, upon notice, on 23 March 2023:

1. Will [agency] spend less on consultancy services in the 2022-23 FY than in the 2021-22 FY?
2. What is [agency] predicted spend on consultancy services in the 2022-23 FY?
3. What did [agency] spend on consultancy services in the 2021-22 FY?
4. How much has [agency] spent on consultancy services to date in the 2022-23 FY?

Senator Barbara Pocock – The Department of Defence has provided the following answers to Senator's questions:

Defence does not specifically forecast consultancy services spend. The nature of consultancy services is intermittent which makes forecasting a full year spend very difficult. Information regarding expenditure on consultancy services is published in Defence's Annual Report.

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INQUIRY QUESTION

(Question No. 5)

Senator Barbara Pocock asked the Department of Defence the following question, upon notice, on 23 March 2023:

5. How many reports did [agency] commission from consultants in the last three financial years: 2019-2020 – 2021-2022?
 - a. Of any reports commissioned in the last three financial years, how many have been publicly released (in whole or in part)?

The Department of Defence has provided the following answer to the Senator's question:

The Department of Defence commissioned 969 reports from consultants in the last three financial years. 123 of those have been publicly released.

INQUIRY QUESTION

(Question No. 6)

Senator Barbara Pocock asked the Department of Defence the following question, upon notice, on 23 March 2023:

6. Has [agency] determined in the last ten years that a consulting firm has not fulfilled their contract? If yes, list all occurrences, including the name of the consulting firm, name of project, date of contract and reason consulting firm did not fulfill the contract.

The Department of Defence has provided the following answer to the Senator's question:

Details relating to consultancy contracts are commercial in confidence and cannot be provided.

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INQUIRY QUESTION

(Question No. 7)

Senator Barbara Pocock asked the Department of Defence the following question, upon notice, on 23 March 2023:

7. Has [agency] terminated any consultancy contract and why in the last ten years?

The Department of Defence has provided the following answer to the Senator's question:

Terminated consultancy contracts are commercial in confidence and cannot be provided.

INQUIRY QUESTION

(Question No. 8)

Senator the Honourable Barbara Pocock MP asked the Department of Defence the following question, upon notice, on 23 March 2023:

8. Have any contracts been the subject of dispute or legal action in the last ten years?

Senator Barbara Pocock - The Department of Defence has provided the following answer to your question:

Defence has not identified any consulting services' contracts that have been subject to legal proceedings or formal dispute.

INQUIRY QUESTION

(Question No. 9)

Senator Barbara Pocock asked the Department of Defence the following question, upon notice, on 23 March 2023:

9. List all contracts awarded to PwC since 16 November 2022 to date. Include:
 - a. name of project
 - b. type of project (advice, evaluation, service delivery etc..)
 - c. cost
 - d. contract commencement date
 - e. contract finalisation date.

Senator Barbara Pocock - The Department of Defence has provided the following answer to the Senator's question:

Defence does not readily hold these records. Surveying the entire workforce to obtain this information would unreasonably divert the resources of the Department. In accordance with the Commonwealth procurement framework, contracts valued over AUD\$10,000 are publicly available on Austender.

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INQUIRY QUESTION

(Question No. 10)

Senator Barbara Pocock asked the Department of Defence the following question, upon notice, on 23 March 2023:

The following question relates to the below consulting/accounting firms that will be referred to as the “Big 7.” If answering in the affirmative to any of the below questions, specify which of the Big 7 firms you are referring to.

- Deloitte
- EY
- KPMG
- PwC
- McKinsey
- Boston Consulting
- Accenture

10. Are any former partners of each of the Big 7 employed at [agency]?

The Department of Defence has provided the following answer to the Senator’s question:

Defence does not keep record of former employers in its HR system (PMKeyS) and is therefore unable to run a search under these parameters. Surveying the entire workforce to obtain this information would unreasonably divert the resources of the Department.

INQUIRY QUESTION

(Question No. 11 & 12)

Senator Barbara Pocock asked the Department of Defence the following question, upon notice, on 23 March 2023:

The following questions relate to the below consulting/accounting firms that will be referred to as the “Big 7.” If answering in the affirmative to any of the below questions, specify which of the Big 7 firms you are referring to.

- Deloitte
- EY
- KPMG
- PwC
- McKinsey
- Boston Consulting
- Accenture

11. Are any of these former partners receiving ongoing payments from their former association with these firms, including as part of any retirement plans?

12. Has [agency] established if these ongoing payments are tied to the financial performance these firms?

Senator Barbara Pocock - The Department of Defence has provided the following answer to the Senators question:

11. This is a question for the relevant individual concerned.

12. This is a question for the relevant firm.

INQUIRY QUESTION

(Question No. 13)

Senator Barbara Pocock asked the Department of Defence the following question, upon notice, on 23 March 2023:

The following question relates to the below consulting/accounting firms that will be referred to as the “Big 7.” If answering in the affirmative to any of the below questions, specify which of the Big 7 firms you are referring to.

- Deloitte
- EY
- KPMG
- PwC
- McKinsey
- Boston Consulting
- Accenture

13. Are any former partners of each of the Big 7 appointed to any boards or sub-committees of [agency]?

The Department of Defence has provided the following answer to the Senator’s question:

Defence does not readily hold these records. Surveying entire workforce to obtain this information would unreasonably divert the resources of the Department.

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INQUIRY QUESTION

(Question No. 16)

Senator Barbara Pocock MP asked the Department of Defence the following question, upon notice, on 23 March 2023:

The following question relates to the below consulting/accounting firms that will be referred to as the “Big 7.” If answering in the affirmative to any of the below questions, specify which of the Big 7 firms you are referring to.

- Deloitte
- EY
- KPMG
- PwC
- McKinsey
- Boston Consulting
- Accenture

16. Are any former partners of the Big 7 involved in any policy consultation committees, panels or other formal processes at [agency]?

The Department of Defence has provided the following answer to the Senator’s question:

Defence does not readily hold these records. Surveying the entire workforce to obtain this information would unreasonably divert the resources of the Department.