

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Contract with Harrisolutions Pty Ltd

Senator: Siewert

Question reference number: 0052

Type of question: Written, 15 May 2020

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 27 May 2020

Number of pages: 1

Question:

On 11 May 2020, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet issued a contract notice for \$137,550 for labour hire services to Harrisolutions Pty Ltd. Is Mr Peter Harris affiliated with Harrisolutions Pty Ltd? If so, how?

a. What criteria was used to award this contract to Harrissolutions Pty Ltd?

Answer:

Yes, Mr Peter Harris is Managing Director of Harrisolutions Pty Ltd.

Mr Harris was hired for his specialist skills and experience.

As published on AusTender, this procurement is covered under Exemption 14 of Appendix A of the Commonwealth Procurement Rules: Contracts for Labour Hire. Contracts for labour hire are defined as a contract under which a relevant entity engages an individual to provide labour, when the individual is engaged either directly or through a firm which primarily exists to provide the services of only that individual. This includes the appointment of an eminent individual to a special role by an Accountable Authority.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Breakdown of remuneration costs for Mr Neville Power

Senator: Siewert

Question reference number: 0053

Type of question: Written, 15 May 2020

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Question:

Please provide a breakdown of costs that make up the revised figure of \$267,345 that Neville Power will be paid.

Answer:

As noted in the letter of clarification from Associate Secretary, Ms Stephanie Foster PSM, to the Senate Select Committee on COVID-19 on 14 May 2020, in developing and executing Mr Neville Power's contract the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet estimated travel to and from Canberra valued at approximately \$6,000 per return trip each week, \$350 per night for accommodation and incidentals such as food and taxis, and additional extra expenses set to be incurred from other travel once internal border restrictions ease.