

## **Senate Standing Committees on Finance and Public Administration**

### **QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **Outcome: Corporate and Enabling Services**

#### **Department of Employment and Workplace Relations Question No. IQ23-000197**

Senator Barbara Pocock provided in writing.

#### ***'Big 7' | DEWR***

#### **Question**

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

1. Are any former partners of each of the Big 7 employed at [agency]?
2. Are any of these former partners receiving ongoing payments from their former association with these firms, including as part of any retirement plans?
3. Has [agency] established if these ongoing payments are tied to the financial performance these firms?
4. Are any former partners of each of the Big 7 appointed to any boards or sub-committees of [agency]?
5. Are any of these former partners receiving ongoing payments from their former association with these firms, including as part of any retirement plans?
6. Has [agency] established if these ongoing payments are tied to the financial performance these firms?
7. Are any former partners of the Big 7 involved in any policy consultation committees, panels or other formal processes at [agency]?
8. Are any of these former partners receiving ongoing payments from their former association with these firms, including as part of any retirement plans?
9. Has [agency] established if these ongoing payments are tied to the financial performance these firms?

**Answer**

The Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) provides the following response:

Question	Response
1. Are any former partners of each of the Big 7 employed at DEWR?	This information is not something DEWR usually records as part of our employment processes for all staff. Obtaining this information for the entire workforce would require extensive use of department resources. However, as it is highly likely that any former partners would be within the Senior Executive Service (SES), we have been able to identify one former partner of KPMG within the SES. Additionally, we can confirm that the Secretary of DEWR was a partner of Deloitte immediately prior to her appointment in August last year.
2. Are any of these former partners receiving ongoing payments from their former association with these firms, including as part of any retirement plans?	DEWR has been advised that neither former partner is receiving ongoing payments from their former association with these firms, including as part of any retirement plans.
3. Has DEWR established if these ongoing payments are tied to the financial performance these firms?	N/A refer to above question.
4. Are any former partners of each of the Big 7 appointed to any boards or sub-committees of DEWR?	In addition to the two individuals listed above who are members of the Executive Board and other DEWR sub-committees, DEWR has one former Deloitte partner appointed to the Risk, Security and Governance Committee, a subcommittee of the Executive Board. The same person is also an independent member of the Audit and Assurance Committee (AAC).
5. Are any of these former partners receiving ongoing payments from their former association with these firms, including as part of any retirement plans?	DEWR has been advised that no ongoing payments are being made to this former Deloitte partner from their former association with the firm, including as part of any retirement plans.
6. Has DEWR established if these ongoing payments are tied to the financial performance these firms?	N/A refer to above question.

<p>7. Are any former partners of the Big 7 involved in any policy consultation committees, panels or other formal processes at DEWR?</p>	<p>DEWR has a significant number of consultation processes underway at any time, some of which are ongoing and others which are for particular topics or issues.</p> <p>DEWR asks a wide range of people with different skills and experience to contribute to varying degrees; some of them may have been a partner in one of these firms at a point in time. This is not information we routinely collect.</p>
<p>8. Are any of these former partners receiving ongoing payments from their former association with these firms, including as part of any retirement plans?</p>	<p>N/A refer to above question.</p>
<p>9. Has DEWR established if these ongoing payments are tied to the financial performance these firms?</p>	<p>N/A refer to above question.</p>