

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES - 20 OCTOBER 2011 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Consultancies

Question reference number: HSW 17

Senator: McKenzie

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 December 2011

Number of pages: 3

Question:

- a) How many consultancies were undertaken in 2010-11? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies.
- b) Were there any changes to any of the portfolio's tenders in 2010-11? Detail any changes
- c) How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway this FYTD? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies.
- d) Does each department and agency stand by its current tenders on the Austenders website? Have any changes or corrections been made for any tenders advertised on to Government Tenders website (www.tenders.gov.au) for tenders advertised this financial year? Explain. Are up to date with reporting requirements?
- e) How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.

Answer:

- a) This information is available in the 2010-11 Annual Reports for the Department of Human Services (including the Child Support Program and CRS Australia), Medicare Australia, and Centrelink.
- b) Changes were made to 19 tenders, with 73 addenda issued. The addenda were primarily clarifications of requirements, in many cases as a result of clarification questions raised by potential tenderers. Other, less common addenda corrected omissions and inaccuracies in documentation, provided documents not complete at the time of tender release, and extended tender closing dates to allow potential tenderers more time to lodge responses.

- c) Six reportable consultancies commenced this financial year (between 1 July 2011 and 30 September 2011) as detailed in the table below.

Consultant Name	Subject Matter Description	Contract Start Date	Contract End Date	Contract Value	Method of Procurement
Access Macquarie Ltd (Risk Frontiers)	Assessment of the Hume Data Centre against impact by natural or man-made disasters	12/08/2011	15/09/2011	\$38,500	Direct
Aquitaine Consulting	Review Service Delivery Reform Benefits Program	21/07/2011	31/07/2011	\$159,500	Direct
Booz & Company (AUST) Pty Ltd	Development of a departmental Balanced Scorecard	02/08/2011	30/09/2011	\$203,280	Open
Cordelta Pty Ltd	Enhance the Service Delivery Reform design model	04/07/2011	30/09/2011	\$210,313	Open
Hugh Watson Consulting Pty Ltd	Strategic review of the Communications Division structure and organisation	13/09/2011	10/11/2011	\$50,039	Panel
Oakton Services Pty Ltd	Specialist services for the enhancement of portfolio, program and project frameworks	19/09/2011	30/11/2011	\$81,598	Panel
				\$743,230	

- d) The department has advertised 13 tenders on the AusTender website during this financial year (between 1 July 2011 and 30 September 2011). Fourteen addenda were issued for seven of those tenders.
DHS is up to date with reporting requirements on AusTender.
- e) There are no consultancies listed as planned for this calendar year, as the need for specialist services does not become apparent until specific issues or business needs are identified. All consultancy contracts are reported in the Annual Report at the conclusion of each financial year.