

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

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

Department of Human Services

Topic: External Auditing

Question reference number: HSW 55

Senator: Fifield

Type of question: Written

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

Number of pages: 2

Question:

- a) How much (if anything) did the department spend overall on external auditing in the financial year:
 1. 2010-2011?
 2. 2011-2012 (estimated)?
- b) How much (if anything) did the department spend on external auditing broken down by Program in the financial year:
 1. 2010-2011?
 2. 2011-2012 (estimated)?
- c) How much (if anything) did CRS Australia spend overall on external auditing in the financial year:
 1. 2010-2011?
 2. 2011-2012 (estimated)?
- d) If there was any expenditure, why was external auditing necessary in 2010-2011?
- e) If any external auditors were engaged, who directed their engagement in 2010-2011?
- f) Did the department seek out quotes from a number of different external auditors before making a final decision to engage particular auditors?
 1. If so:
 - i. How many different auditors/firms were approached?
 - ii. Were the cheapest options chosen? If not, why not?
 2. If not, why not?

Answer:

- a) 1. Nil.
 2. Nil
- b) 1. Nil.
 2. Nil
- c) 1. Nil.
 2. Nil

- d) Not applicable.
- e) Not applicable.
- f)
 1. Not applicable.
 2. External auditing of the department's financial statements is undertaken by the Australian National Audit Office.