

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Hearings February 2014

Communications Portfolio

Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Question No: 241

Program No.: Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Consultancies

Senator Ludwig asked:

1. How many consultancies have been undertaken from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? 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.
2. 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.
3. Have any consultancies not gone out for tender? If so, which ones and why?

Answer:

1. There have been 36 consultancies undertaken from 1 November to 28 February. Details on these consultants are as follows:

Consultant	Purpose of Consultancy	Total \$
Below \$10,000		
Various	Various	47,123
Sub total		<u>47,123</u>
\$10,000-\$50,000		
R. Hutchinson	Strategic advice	10,000
CRS Australia	Technical advice	10,026
Risk Logic Pty Ltd	Strategic advice	10,313
George Lombard Consultancy Pty Ltd	Technical advice	10,651
IBM Australia Ltd	Technical advice	11,520
S. Brown	Strategic advice	15,000

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A. Wills	Editorial advice	17,241
V. Anderson	Strategic advice	19,200
Ernst & Young	Finance, tax and other advisory services	19,882
Venture Consulting Pty Ltd	Technical advice	24,238
Lieasi Global Ltd	International development projects	24,990
Grant Thornton Australia Ltd	Technical advice	25,200
P. Graham	Strategic advice	27,500
Gerald Stone Productions Pty Ltd	Editorial advice	30,000
Pricewaterhouse Coopers	Finance, tax and other advisory services	30,517
J. Auffray	Strategic advice	32,854
MediaXchange Pty Ltd	Strategic advice	37,719
Gartner Australasia Pty Ltd	Strategic advice	43,519
The Brief Group Pty Ltd	Strategic advice	48,238
Subtotal		<u>448,608</u>
Above \$50,000		
2nd Road Pty Ltd	Strategic advice	68,757
L.E.K. Consulting	Strategic advice	76,290
Frazer Walker Pty Ltd	Technical advice	141,800
Sub total		<u>286,847</u>
Grand total		<u><u>782,578</u></u>

Consultancies that are capitalised as part of an asset recorded in the balance sheet are excluded from the list above.

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It is not practical to determine the duration of the above consultancies. The ABC's procurement policy, which complies with Commonwealth Procurement Rules, was applied to the above consultancies. Contracts in excess of \$100,000 but less than \$400,000 typically require a request for quote (RFQ) process, whilst those contracts less than \$100,000 typically require three or more quotes.

2. The ABC does not forward plan individual consultancies as such and cannot give an estimate of the likely number of consultants that may be engaged between now and 31 December 2014.

The ABC is not a prescribed agency subject to section 47A of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*, and as such, is not permitted access to the APP functionality within AusTender.

3. Consultancies went out to tender in accordance with the procurement policy outlined in Question 1, above.