

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio
2017 - 2018 Budget Estimates
31 May – 1 June 2017

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: Senate estimates training

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Ketter

QUESTION No.: BI-140

For the 2016-17 financial year, what was the total amount spent by the Department on Senate Estimates training (either as a whole contract or as part of a contract)?

For each contract for Senate estimates training in 2016/2017, can you please provide:

- The supplier;
- The sub-department or agency which paid for the training;
- Whether the supplier has been engaged previously and if so, for which contracts;
- The total value of the contract;
- The term of the contract (time);
- The date that the decision was taken to engage in estimates training;
- The date the contract was opened to tender or selection process;
- The date the supplier was engaged;
- Whether the contract was subject to a tender process, including whether there was a full, partial or closed tender process;
- Does the supplier exist on a pre-approved supplier list, if so, when were they added to that list;
- Whether the relevant Minister, or the relevant Minister's Office, requested that the Senate Estimates training be conducted;
- Whether the relevant Minister approved the decision to conduct Estimates training;
- Whether the relevant Minister approved the contract with the supplier;
- Whether the relevant Minister or the relevant Minister's office was consulted on what needed to be covered in the training;
- If the decision to undertake Senate estimates training was initiated by the department or agency, was the relevant Minister or their office consulted before the decision was taken, if so – in what form did that consultation take (written, verbal other);
- If the decision to undertake Senate estimates training was initiated by the department or agency, did relevant Minister or their office make any amendments or changes to the Department's proposal? If so, what changes and to what aspects were they made;

ANSWER

In the 2016-17 Financial Year the department spent a total of \$5720.00 (GST inclusive) on Media Skills and Training for departmental officers which included theory and discussion on Senate Estimates.

The supplier was Laurie Wilson & Associates Pty Ltd who was engaged under direct source. The same supplier had previously been engaged by the department in November 2013 for similar training services. The supplier was not on a pre-approved supplier list at the time of the procurement.

The decision to engage in training was made in early September 2016 and the supplier engaged on 15 September 2016. The training was delivered on 29 September and 5 October 2016.

Portfolio Ministers were not involved in the decision to conduct the training or consulted on what needed to be covered at each session.