

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ15-000245

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Code of Conduct

1. How are code of conduct violations by departmental and/or agency staff mediated?
2. Are any outside firms contracted to assist with this process? If yes: please list them, please include:

1. The structure of payments made to each firm (e.g. retainers, fees for each consultation etc).
2. Amount paid to each firm since the last budget.
3. When the contract with the firm commenced.
4. When the contract with the firm will expire.
5. Why the firm was selected to provide the service.
6. Please provide a list of disputes referred to the firm, including a brief description of the dispute.

Answer

Breaches of the APS Code of Conduct by Departmental staff are not mediated. Alleged breaches are investigated under the Department's procedures that have been established under subsection 15(3) of *Public Service Act 1999*.