

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 1

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Taxi Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis during the specified period? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.*
- 2. What are the reasons for taxi costs?*
- 3. How much did the department spend on taxis during the specified period for their minister or minister's office?*

Answer

1. \$2,275 on taxi costs within the Canberra area. \$1,687 related to corporate activity and \$568 related to direct program activity. Taxi costs related to interstate and overseas are included in other trip related costs (refer Question 31). To extract the costs related to taxi would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances the additional work cannot be justified.
2. Attendance at meetings, banking and similar office activity, transfers to/from airports and hotels for travel.
3. NIL

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 2

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Hospitality and entertainment

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. What has been the Department/Agency's hospitality spend including any catering and drinks costs.*
- 2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.*
- 3. What has been the Department/Agency's entertainment spend? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.*
- 4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.*
- 5. What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.*
- 6. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.*
- 7. What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.*
- 8. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.*
- 9. Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved?*

Answer

1. NIL
2. NIL
3. NIL
4. NIL
5. NIL
6. NIL
7. NIL
8. NIL
9. N/A

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 3

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Executive coaching and leadership training

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

Please provide the following information in relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency:

1. *Total spending on these services*
2. *The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification*
3. *The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*
4. *The names of all service providers engaged For each service purchased form a provider listed under (4), please provide:*
 1. *The name and nature of the service purchased*
 2. *Whether the service is one-on-one or group based*
 3. *The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification*
 4. *The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*
 5. *The total amount spent on the service*
 6. *A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)*
5. *Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:*
 1. *The location used*
 2. *The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*
 3. *The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*
 4. *Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location*
6. *In relation to education/executive coaching and/or other leadership training services paid for by the department what agreements are made with employees in regards to continuing employment after training has been completed?*
7. *For graduate or post graduate study, please breakdown each approved study leave by staffing allocation and degree or program title.*

Answer

1. \$2,330

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2. Executive coaching and leadership training is offered to all staff, and is negotiated with their supervisor as part of annual work performance planning and review.
3. 2 APS5 employees – 2 days training per employee.
4. Australian Public Service Commission (APSC)
 1. Leading small teams
 2. Group session
 3. 2 x APS5
 4. 16 hours per employee
 5. \$2,330
 6. \$1,165 per 2 day course per employee.
5. Australian Public Service Commission (APSC)
 1. APSC, Aviation House, Furzon St, Phillip ACT.
 2. 1 employee
 3. 16hrs
 4. NIL
6. NIL
7. 1 x Graduate – 5hrs study leave per week. \$2,000 per financial year and \$250 books per financial year.
1 x Post graduate – study leave IAW policy only no financial support.

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Question No 4

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Staffing profile

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. Has there been any change to the staffing profile of the department/agency?*
- 2. Provide a list of changes to staffing numbers, broken down by classification level, division, home base location (including town/city and state)*

Answer

1. Yes
2. One less EL2, Corporate, Bruce, ACT

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 5

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Staffing reductions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *How many staff reductions/voluntary redundancies have occurred?
 1. *What was the reason for these reductions?**
2. *Were any of these reductions involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.*
3. *Are there any plans for further staff reductions/voluntary redundancies? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut.*
4. *If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.*
5. *Are there any plans for involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.*
6. *How many ongoing staff left the department/agency? What classification were these staff?*
7. *How many non-ongoing staff left department/agency from? What classification were these staff?*
8. *What are the voluntary redundancy packages offered? Please detail for each staff level and position*
9. *How do the packages differ from the default public service package?*
10. *How is the department/agency funding the packages?*

Answer

1. One
 1. Strategic restructure precipitated by budget reduction.
2. No
3. No
4. Not applicable
5. No
6. APS4x3; APS5 x 1; APS6 x 1; EL2 x 1
7. APS4 x 4; APS6 x 1; EL1 x 1
8. Standard public service package
9. No difference
10. Self-funded

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 6

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Staffing recruitment

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. How many ongoing staff have been recruited? What classification are these staff?*
- 2. How many non-ongoing positions exist or have been created? What classification are these staff?*
- 3. How many staff have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?*

Answer

1. 4 x APS4
2. 14 x EL2 RPM; 5 x APS4, none has been created since 14 September, 2015
3. 1 x 7 months

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 7

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Kitchen appliances

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *Has the department/agency purchased, leased or rented any kitchen appliances over the value of \$1000?*
 1. *If yes, provide a list that includes the type of appliance, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of consumables and when the appliance was purchased?*
 2. *Why were the appliances purchased?*
 3. *Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since the appliances were purchased? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result?*
 4. *Where did the funding for the appliances come from?*
 5. *Who has access?*
 6. *Who is responsible for the maintenance of the appliances? How much was spent on maintenance, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?*
 7. *What are the other ongoing costs of the appliances?*

Answer

1. No

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 8

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Boards (for Departments or agencies with boards)

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. how often has each board met, break down by board name;*
- 2. what travel expenses have been incurred;*
- 3. what has been the average attendance at board meetings;*
- 4. List each member's attendance at meetings;*
- 5. how does the board deal with conflict of interest;*
- 6. what conflicts of interest have been registered;*
- 7. what remuneration has been provided to board members;*
- 8. how does the board dismiss board members who do not meet attendance standards?*
- 9. Have any requests been made to ministers to dismiss board members?*
- 10. Please list board members who have attended less than 51% of meetings*
- 11. what have been the catering costs for the board meetings held during this period? Please break down the cost list.*

Answer

1. ACIAR Policy Advisory Council has met once and the Commission for International Agricultural Research has met three times
2. ACIAR Policy Advisory Council - \$59,855
The travel expenses for the Commission for International Agricultural research is approximately \$95,000 but cannot be provided more accurately due to recent travel.
3. ACIAR Policy Advisory 90%
ACIAR Commission 94%
4. ACIAR Policy Advisory Council
14-15 September 2015
Prof Kym Anderson AC (Chair)
Dr Leah Buendia
Mr Xaypladeth Choulamany
Dr Jia Jingdun
Dr Ouk Makara
Dr Nguyen Van Bo
Prof Ruth Oniang'o
Dr Iftikhar Ahmad
Mr Brown Bai (Apology)

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Dr Muhammad Syakir (Apology, represented by Dr Ir Agung Hendriadi)
Dr Colin Tukuitonga (Apology, represented by Mr Cameron Diver)
Dr Subanna Ayyappan (Apology)
Mr Blair Exell

ACIAR Commission
15 September 2015
Mr Don Heatley (Chair)

Dr Nick Austin
Mr John Cook
Ms Lucinda Corrigan
Dr Joanne Daly
Dr Tony Gregson
Ms Catherine Marriott

1-2 December 2015
Mr Don Heatley (Chair)
Mr John Cook

Ms Lucinda Corrigan
Dr Tony Gregson
Dr Nick Austin
Ms Catherine Marriott (apology due to illness)
28 February 2016

Mr Don Heatley (Chair)
Dr Nick Austin
Mr John Cook
Ms Lucinda Corrigan
Dr Tony Gregson
Ms Catherine Marriott

5. Policy Advisory Council does not record conflicts of interest as the role is advisory only and all members with the exception of the Chair are from overseas.
6. Commissioners are required to report any conflicts of interest at each meeting and these are included in the record of the meeting. Commissioners have reported their membership of Boards and Committees which may have the potential to cut across ACIAR's work
7. Policy Advisory Council (PAC) - Members are paid remuneration that is determined by the Remuneration Tribunal currently at the rate of Chair (\$512/day) and Members (\$384/day); and are paid allowances that are prescribed.
Commission - In accordance with subsection 13(1) of the *ACIAR Act 1982*, Commissioners are paid remuneration that is determined by the Remuneration Tribunal (currently at the rate of Chair (\$922/day), and Commissioners (\$692/day); and are paid allowances that are prescribed.
8. Policy Advisory Council (PAC) - The Minister may terminate the appointment of an appointed member of the Council by reason of misbehaviour or physical or mental incapacity, including is absent, except on leave granted by the Council, from 3 consecutive meetings of the Council otherwise than on business of the Council undertaken with the approval of the Council

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Commission - The Governor-General may terminate the appointment of a Commissioner for misbehaviour or physical or mental incapacity, including if the Commissioner is absent, except on leave of absence, from 3 consecutive meetings of the Commission

9. No

10. NIL

11. Policy Advisory Council -\$318; Commission - \$203

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 9

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Corporate cars

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *How many cars are owned by each department/agency?*
 1. *Where are the cars located?*
 2. *What are the cars used for?*
 3. *What is the cost of each car during the specified period?*
 4. *How far did each car travel during the specified period?*
2. *How many cars are leased by each department/agency?*
 1. *Where are the cars located?*
 2. *What are the cars used for?*
 3. *What is the cost of each car during the specified period?*
 4. *How far did each car travel during the specified period?*

Answer

1. Five
 1. One in each of Beijing, Jakarta, Port Moresby, Hanoi and Manila
 2. Visiting remote project sites and supporting general office administration
 3. Beijing \$689
Jakarta \$3,985
Port Moresby \$3,690
Hanoi \$211
Manila \$3,017
 4. Beijing (1,344km); Jakarta (1,406km), Port Moresby (4469km), Hanoi (5,063km) and Manila (14,489 Km)
2. NIL

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 10

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Government payments of accounts

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. What has been the average time period for the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors, consultants or others?*
- 2. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in under 30 days?*
- 3. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 30 and 60 days?*
- 4. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 60 and 90 days?*
- 5. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 90 and 120 days? f) How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in over 120 days?*
- 6. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency since Estimates, 2014?*
- 7. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?*

Answer

1. Data on the precise amount of time taken to pay each account is not readily available. To provide such details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances the additional work cannot be justified. On the basis that goods and services have been received, it is agency policy that accounts are paid within 30 days of receipt of a correctly rendered invoice. As such, the average time period would be less than 30 days.
2. Noting the comment at 1 above, we are not aware of any account paid outside agency policy. As such, 100% of relevant accounts (1,011) paid were paid within 30 days
3. Noting the response at 1 and 2; 0,0%
4. Noting the response at 1 and 2; 0,0%.
5. Noting the response at 1 and 2; 0,0%. Over 120 days; 0,0%.
6. N/A. No interest has been paid since Estimates 2014.
7. N/A

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 11

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Hire cars

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. How much did each department/agency spend on hire cars during the specified period? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.*
- 2. What are the reasons for hire car costs?*
- 3. How much did the department spend on hire cars during the specified period for their minister or minister's office?*

Answer

1. \$1,874 on car hire within Australia.
Overseas car hire costs (small) are included in other trip related costs (refer Question 31). To extract the costs related to overseas car hire would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances the additional work cannot be justified.
2. Cars are hired for ground transport related to domestic and international travel where the cost of doing so is expected to be less than taxi costs or where security issues (overseas) require, or make advisable, the hiring of a car and/or driver.
3. NIL.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 12

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Credit cards

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. Provide a breakdown of any changes to employment classifications that have access to a corporate credit card.*
- 2. Have there been any changes to action taken in the event that the corporate credit card is misused?*
- 3. Have there been any changes to how corporate credit card use is monitored?*
- 4. Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered during the specified period? If so:*
- 5. Please list staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.*
- 6. Have there been any changes to what action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?*
- 7. How many credit cards available to the Minister or their office? If so, please list by classification. Have there been any misuse of credit cards by the Minister or their office? Has any action been taken against the Minister or their office for credit card misuse? If so, list each occurrence, including the cost of the misuse.*

Answer

1. There have been no changes.
2. No
3. No
4. No
5. No
6. No
7. NIL

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 13

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Functions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *Provide a list of all formal functions or forms of hospitality conducted for the Minister. Include:*
 1. *The guest list of each function*
 2. *The party or individual who initiated the request for the function*
 3. *The menu, program or list of proceedings of the function*
 4. *A list of drinks consumed at the function*
2. *Provide a list of the current wine, beer or other alcoholic beverages in stock or on order in the Minister's office. Breakdown by item, quantity and cost.*

Answer

1. NIL
2. N/A

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 14

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Red tape reduction

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. Please detail changes to structures, officials, offices, units, taskforce or other processes has the department dedicated to meeting the government's red tape reduction targets?*
- 1. What is the progress of that red tape reduction target*
- 2. How many officers have been placed in those units and at what level?*
- 3. How have they been recruited?*
- 4. What process was used for their appointment?*
- 5. What is the total cost of this unit?*
- 6. What is the estimated total salary cost of the officers assigned to the unit.*
- 7. Do members of the unit have access to cabinet documents?*
- 8. Please list the security classification and date the classification was issued for each officer, broken down by APS or SES level, in the red tape reduction unit or similar body.*
- 9. What is the formal name given to this unit/taskforce/team/workgroup or agency within the department?*

Answer

1. NIL

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 15

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Land costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. *How much land (if any) does the Department or agencies or authorities or Government corporation within each portfolio own or lease?*
2. *Please list by each individual land holding, the size of the piece of land, the location of that piece of land and the latest valuation of that piece of land, where that land is owned or leased by the Department, or agency or authority or Government Corporation within that portfolio? (In regards to this question please ignore land upon which Australian Defence force bases are located. Non Defence Force base land is to be included)*
3. *List the current assets, items or purse (buildings, facilities or other) on the land identified above.*
 - a. *What is the current occupancy level and occupant of the items identified in (3)?*
 - b. *What is the value of the items identified in (3)?*
 - c. *What contractual or other arrangements are in place for the items identified in (3)?*
4. *How many buildings (if any) does the Department or agencies or authorities or Government Corporation within each portfolio own or lease?*
5. *Please list by each building owned, its name, the size of the building in terms of square metres, the location of that of that building and the latest valuation of that building, where that building is owned by the Department, or agency or authority or Government corporation within that portfolio? (In regards to this question please ignore buildings that are situated on Australian Defence force bases. Non Defence Force base buildings are to be included).*
6. *In regards to any building identified in Q4, please also detail, the occupancy rate as expressed as a percentage of the building size. If occupancy is identified as less than 100%, for what is the remaining space used?*

Answer

1. NIL

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2. NIL
3. NIL
4. One
5. N/A
6. 100%

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 16

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Contracts for Temporary Staff

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. How much did the department/agency spend on temporary or contract staff?*
- 2. How many temporary or contract staff have been employed?*
- 3. What is the total number of temporary or contract staff currently employed?*
- 4. How much was paid for agencies/companies to find temporary/contract staff?*
- 5. Have there been any changes to the policies/criteria that govern the appointment of contract staff?*

Answer

1. \$36,660
2. 3
3. 2
4. NIL
5. No

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 17

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Printing

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *How many documents (include the amount of copies) have been printed?*
 1. *How many of these printed documents were also published online?*
2. *Has the Department/Agency used external printing services for any print jobs?*
 1. *If so, what companies were used?*
 2. *How were they selected?*
 3. *What was the total cost of this printing by item?*

Answer

1. Total number of documents = 12

1. Technical Report 088
200 copies \$1,790.00

Adoption Studies 12
100 copies \$1,474.00

Partners Magazine
2 editions \$22,242.00

Impact Assessment 88
75 copies \$962.00

MN178 Value-Chain Analysis and Development
\$1,622.00

MN177 Trajectories of Rice-based Farming
300 copies \$7,392.00

MN 159a
100 copies \$4,125.00

Brochures
500 copies \$740.00

Fact Sheet \$540

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Proceedings

145 – 250 copies \$2,178.00

Annual Report 2014 -15

1,500 copies \$24,455.00

Adjustment

-\$1,320.00

-\$6,789.00

All publications are online

2. Yes

1. 5 companies were used

Canprint

Printgraphics

Giraffe Visual Communications

Instant Colour Press

Counterfeit Copy

2. From the DHS Multi user list and Limited tender

3. Listed above –Total cost of printing - \$75,089.00

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 18

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Communications staff

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. *For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:*
2. *How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.*
3. *How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location*
4. *How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location*
5. *How many are graphic designers?*
6. *How many are media managers?*
7. *How many organise events?*

Have these arrangements changed since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015? If yes, please detail.

Answer

1. ACIAR
2. Four Ongoing staff, 2 x EL1, 1 x APS6, 1 x APS5. Duties include communicating the results and research and corporate communication requirements of the agency. Bruce ACT.
3. 1 X APS4, communications support officer, Bruce ACT.
4. NIL
5. NIL
6. NIL
7. All communication staff may be involved in organizing events.

No

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 19

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Reviews

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *How many new reviews (defined as review, inter-departmental group, inquiry, internal review or similar activity) have been commenced? Please list them including:*
 1. *the date they were ordered*
 2. *the date they commenced*
 3. *the minister responsible*
 4. *the department responsible*
 5. *the nature of the review*
 6. *their terms of reference*
 7. *the scope of the review*
 8. *Who is conducting the review*
 9. *the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review*
 10. *the expected report date*
 11. *the budgeted, projected or expected costs*
 12. *If the report will be tabled in parliament or made public*
2. *For any review commenced or ordered, have any external people, companies or contractors being engaged to assist or conduct the review?*
 1. *If so, please list them, including their name and/or trading name/s and any known alias or other trading names*
 2. *If so, please list their managing director and the board of directors or equivalent*
 3. *If yes, for each is the cost associated with their involvement, including a break down for each cost item*
 4. *If yes, for each, what is the nature of their involvement*
 5. *If yes, for each, are they on the lobbyist register, provide details.*
 6. *If yes, for each, what contact has the Minister or their office had with them*
 7. *If yes, for each, who selected them*
 8. *If yes, for each, did the minister or their office have any involvement in selecting them,*
 1. *If yes, please detail what involvement it was*
 2. *If yes, did they see or provided input to a short list*
 3. *If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur*
 4. *If yes, did this involve any verbal discussions with the department*

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5. *If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur*
3. *Which reviews are on-going?*
 1. *Please list them.*
 2. *What is the current cost to date expended on the reviews?*
4. *Have any reviews been stopped, paused or ceased? Please list them.*
5. *Which reviews have concluded? Please list them.*
6. *How many reviews have been provided to Government? Please list them and the date they were provided.*
7. *When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?*
8. *What reviews are planned?*
 1. *When will each planned review be commenced?*
 2. *When will each of these reviews be concluded?*
 3. *When will government respond to each review?*
 4. *Will the government release each review?*
 1. *If so, when? If not, why not?*

Answer

1. NIL
2. NIL
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. NIL
6. NIL
7. N/A
8. NIL

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 20

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Commissioned reports

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *How many reports (including paid external advice) have been commissioned by the Minister, department or agency?
 1. *Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.**
2. *How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental or external staff were involved in each report and at what level?*
3. *What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?*

Answer

1. NIL
2. N/A
3. N/A

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 21

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Appointments

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. Please detail any board appointments made to date.*
- 2. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?*
- 3. Has the department instigated or changed its gender ratio target and/or any other policy intended to increase the participation rate of women on boards? If yes, please specify what the target and policy is for each board.*
- 4. Please specify when these gender ratio or participation policies were changed.*

Answer

1. NIL
2. ACIAR Policy Advisory Council (PAC) 2:10 female to male;
ACIAR Commission 2:4 female to male, with one vacancy
3. No change
4. No change

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 22

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Stationery Requirements

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *How much has been spent by each department and agency on the government (Ministers / Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio to date?*
 1. *Detail the items provided to the minister's office.*
 2. *Please specify how many reams of paper have been supplied to the Minister's office.*
2. *How much has been spent on departmental stationery requirements to date.*
3. *Has any customised stationery been requested or provided to the Minister or Ministerial Staff? If yes, please include a photo/scan, detail the type of stationery, date it was requested, date it was provided and the cost.*

Answer

1. NIL
2. \$13604.21
3. NIL

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 23

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Electronic equipment

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *Other than phones, ipads or computers – please list the electronic equipment provided to the Minister’s office.*
 1. *List the items*
 2. *List the items location or normal location*
 3. *List if the item is in the possession of the office or an individual staff member of minister, if with an individual list their employment classification level*
 4. *List the total cost of the items*
 5. *List an itemised cost breakdown of these items*
 6. *List the date they were provided to the office*
 7. *Note if the items were requested by the office or proactively provided by the department*

Answer

1. NIL

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 24

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Media subscriptions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have?*
 1. *Please provide a list of channels and the reason for each channel.*
 2. *What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?*
 3. *What is provided to the Minister or their office?*
 4. *What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?*
2. *What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have?*
 1. *Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each.*
 2. *What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?*
 3. *What is provided to the Minister or their office?*
 4. *What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?*
3. *What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have?*
 1. *Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each.*
 2. *What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?*
 3. *What is provided to the Minister or their office?*
 4. *What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?*
4. *What publications does your department/agency purchase?*
 1. *Please provide a list of publications purchased by the department and the reason for each.*
 2. *What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?*
 3. *What is provided to the Minister or their office?*
 4. *What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?*

Answer

1. NIL
2. Newspaper subscriptions
 1. ACIAR Canberra subscribes to The Financial Review, The Australian and The Sydney Morning Herald. Offices overseas subscribe to a range of daily newspapers. Each is to enable up to date information on domestic and international issues to be available.
 2. \$2933.99
 3. NIL

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

4. N/A
3. Magazine subscriptions
 1. Science
 2. Approximately USD200
 3. NIL
 4. N/A
4. NIL

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 25

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Meeting costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. How much has the Department/Agency spent on meeting costs? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs.*
- 2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total meeting spend from to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.*
- 3. What meeting spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.*
- 4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what meeting spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.*

Answer

- Owing to the large number of components that comprise 'meeting costs' (e.g. travel expenses, venue hire, equipment hire, catering expenses) and the decentralised model used by the agency for organising and holding meetings, determining the total amount spent on meeting costs for the would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified. Details of specific meetings are maintained on individual files across the agency. To provide the details sought would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.
\$518.00 – PAC and Commission – lunch catering at ACIAR House 1 and 2 December 2015
InnovationXchange –Commission Meeting, 2 December 2015
- NIL.
- The agency does not forecast meeting plans or expenditure separately to general budget planning. To provide details of individual meetings planned and reasons for individual meetings would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, we do not consider the additional work can be justified.
- NIL.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 26

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Media training

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information:*
 1. *Total spending on these services*
 2. *An itemised cost breakdown of these services*
 3. *The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification*
 4. *The number of employees who have utilised these services and their employment classification*
 5. *The names of all service providers engaged*
 6. *The location that this training was provided*
2. *For each service purchased from a provider listed under (1), please provide:*
 1. *The name and nature of the service purchased*
 2. *Whether the service is one-on-one or group based*
 3. *The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*
 4. *The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*
 5. *The total amount spent on the service*
 6. *A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)*
3. *Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:*
 4. *The location used*
 5. *The number of employees who took part on each occasion*
 6. *The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)*
 7. *Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location*

Answer

1. NIL
2. NIL
3. NIL
4. NIL
5. NIL

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

- 6. NIL
- 7. NIL

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 27

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Consultancies

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *How many consultancies have been undertaken? 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?*
 1. *List each, including name, cost and purpose*
 2. *If so, why?*

Answer

1. One. Consultant: Geoffrey Morris. Subject Matter: Report on the Capacity Building in Bilateral Research Projects in Vietnam including institutional and individual perspectives. Duration: 7 months. Cost: \$78,210.00 GST Inc. Method: Limited tender. Total - \$78,210.00 GST Inc
2. NIL
3. Yes.
 1. Refer AusTender
 2. No requirement estimated as above CPR Div 2 threshold.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 28

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Provision of equipment - ministerial

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *For departments/agencies that provide mobile phones to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what type of mobile phone has been provided and the costs?*
 1. *Itemise equipment and cost broken down by staff or minister classification*
2. *Has electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive, video cameras) been provided by the department/agency? If yes provide a list of:*
3. *What is provided?*
4. *The purchase cost.*
5. *The ongoing cost.*
6. *A list of any accessories provided for the equipment and the cost of those accessories. (e.g. iPad keyboards, laptop carry bags, additional chargers etc).*
7. *A breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives each item.*

Answer

1. N/A
2. NIL
3. NIL
4. NIL
5. NIL
6. NIL
7. NIL

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 29

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Provision of equipment - departmental

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. Has electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive, video cameras) been provided by the department/agency to departmental staff? If yes provide a list of:*
- 2. What has been provided?*
- 3. The purchase cost.*
- 4. The ongoing cost.*
- 5. A list of any accessories provided for the equipment and the cost of those accessories. (e.g. iPad keyboards, laptop carry bags, additional chargers etc).*
- 6. A breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives each item.*

Answer

1. Yes
2. iPad, iPhone, laptop, thumb drive
3. iPads x 4 \$3317 incl. GST and iPhone x 5 \$3648 incl. GST
Laptop – no new Laptops have been purchased since 14 September, new staff will have been allocated a laptop from our existing stock of laptops.
Thumb Drive x 3 \$579 incl. GST
4. Call and data charges for iPhone and iPad, between \$3000 and \$5000 per month
5. iPad keyboard/cases \$154.90 (iPhone cases - NIL purchased since Sept 14 2016)
6. *All ACIAR staff are provided with a Laptop, in addition to this, selected staff receive iPhones and iPads.*
CEO iPhone and iPad
SES x 2 iPhone and iPad
EL2 x 15 iPhone and iPads
EL1 - 1 iPhone, 2 iPads
APS6 - 1 iPhone and 3 iPads
APS 5 - 1 iPhone

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 30

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Computers

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. List the current inventory of computers owned, leased, stored, or able to be accessed by the Ministers office as provided by the department, listing the equipment cost and location and employment classification of the staff member that is allocated the equipment, or if the equipment is currently not being used*
- 2. List the current inventory of computers owned, leased, stored, or able to be accessed by the department, listing the equipment cost and location*
- 3. Please detail the operating systems used by the departments computers, the contractual arrangements for operating software and the on-going costs*

Answer

1. NIL
2. Total number of laptops – 89
Staff in Canberra - 55
Overseas staff - 23
In storage room – 11
Desktop computers – 5 (conference rooms and in storage)
3. Windows 7 service pack 1
Microsoft VSA agreement
Costs are approximately \$13,000 per year

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 31

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Travel costs - departmental

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. Is the minister or their office or their delegate required to approve all departmental and agency international travel?*
- 2. If so, under what policy?*
- 3. Provide a copy of that policy.*
- 4. When was this policy implemented?*
- 5. When is the minister notified, when is approval provided?*
- 6. Detail all travel (domestic and international) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).*
- 7. Detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.*
- 8. What date was the minister or their office notified of the travel?*
- 9. What date did the minister or their office approve the travel?*
- 10. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.*

Answer

1. No
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. N/A
6. NIL.
7. Total travel expenses incurred by Departmental Officers between 1 September 2015 and 29 February was \$696,508. Airfares total \$449,230 and accommodation, meals, ground transport and other travel related expenses total \$247,278. Departmental Officers have an entitlement to travel business class on International trip and economy on domestic trips. No first class travel was undertaken.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

The agency does not record travel data in a way that readily allows all travel costs to be separately captured to provide a detailed breakdown for each trip. To provide such details would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances the additional work cannot be justified.

Travel is undertaken to assist the Chief Executive Officer fulfil his functions as detailed in Section 5 of the *Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research Act 1982* (<https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2014C00533>)

8. N/A

9. N/A

10. The agency does not forecast travel plans or expenditure separately to general budget planning. To provide details of individual travel plans and reasons for travel would entail a significant diversion of resources and, in these circumstances, the additional work cannot be justified. As noted at 7 above, travel is undertaken to assist the Chief Executive Officer fulfil his functions as detailed in Section 5 of the *Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research Act 1982*.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 32

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Grants

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *What guidelines are in place to administer grants?*
2. *How are grants applied for?*
3. *Are there any restrictions on who can apply for a grant? If yes, please detail.*
 1. *Can these restrictions be waved? If yes, please detail the process for waving them and list any grants where the restrictions were waved.*
4. *What is the procedure for selecting who will be awarded a grant?*
5. *Who is involved in this selection process?*
6. *Does the minister or the minister's office play any role in awarding grants? If yes, please detail.*
 1. *Has the minister or the minister's office exercised or attempted to exercise any influence over the awarding of any grants? If yes, please detail.*
7. *Provide a list of all grants, including ad hoc, one-off discretionary grants awarded to date. Provide the recipients, amount, intended use of the grants, what locations have benefited from the grants and the electorate and state of those locations.*
8. *Update the status of each grant that was approved prior to the specified period, but did not have financial contracts in place at that time. Provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants, what locations have benefited from the grants and the electorate and state of those grants.*

Answer

1. N/A
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. N/A
6. N/A
7. N/A
8. N/A

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 33

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Departmental rebranding

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. Has the department/Agency undergone a name change or any other form of rebranding? If so:

a. Please detail why this name change / rebrand were considered necessary and a justified use of departmental funds?

i. Please provide a copy of any reports that were commissioned to study the benefits and costs associated with the rebranding.

b. Please provide the total cost associated with this rebrand and then break down by amount spent replacing:

i. Signage.

ii. Stationery (please include details of existing stationery and how it was disposed of).

iii. Logos

iv. Consultancy

v. Any relevant IT changes.

vi. Office reconfiguration.

c. How was the decision reached to rename and/or rebrand the department?

i. Who was involved in reaching this decision? ii. Please provide a copy of any communication (including but not limited to emails, letters, memos, notes etc) from within the department, or between the department and the government regarding the rename/rebranding.

Answer

1. NIL

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 34

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Media monitoring

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office during the specified period?*
 1. *Which agency or agencies provided these services?*
 2. *What has been spent providing these services during the specified period?*
 3. *Itemise these expenses.*
2. *What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency during the specified period?*
 1. *Which agency or agencies provided these services?*
 2. *What has been spent providing these services during the specified period?*
 3. *Itemise these expenses*

Answer

1. N/A
2. NIL

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 35

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Procedure Manuals (Ministerial)

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. *Does the minister's office have a procedure manual for communication between the minister's office and the department? If yes, please provide a copy and:*
2. *When was the manual last updated?*
3. *Who is responsible for updating the manual?*
4. *Who is the manual distributed to?*
5. *Is anyone responsible for clearing communications before they are sent to the department?*

Answer

1. No
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. N/A

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 36

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Enterprise Bargaining Agreements (EBAs)

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Please list all related EBAs with coverage of the department.*
- 2. Please list their starting and expiration dates.*
- 3. What is the current status of negotiations for the next agreement/s? Please detail.*

Answer

1. Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research Enterprise Agreement 2015-2018
2. 31Dec15 – 31Dec18
3. N/A

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 37

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Existing Resources Program

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. How many projects, work, programs or other tasks has the department started as a consequence of government policies or priorities that are required to be funded 'within existing resources'?*
- 2. List each*
- 3. List the staffing assigned to each task*
- 4. What is the nominal total salary cost of the officers assigned to the project?*
- 5. What resources or equipment has been assigned to the project?*

Answer

1. NIL
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. NIL
5. NIL

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 38

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Conditions of Government Contracts and Agreements

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

- 1. Do any contracts managed by the Department/Agency contain any limitations or restrictions on advocacy or criticising Government policy? If so, please name each contact. When was it formed or created?*
- 2. What are the specific clauses and/or sections which state this, or in effect, create a limitation or restriction?*
- 3. Do any agreements managed by the Department/Agency contain any limitations or restrictions on advocacy or criticisms of Government policy? If so, please name each agreement. When was it formed or created?*
- 4. What are the specific clauses and/or sections which state this, or in effect, create a limitation or restriction?*
- 5. For each of the contracts and agreements, are there any particular reason, such as genuine commercial in confidence information, for this restriction?*
- 6. Have any changes to financial or resource support to services which advocate on behalf of groups or individuals in Australian society been made? If so, which groups? What was the change?*
- 7. Has any consultation occurred between the Department/Agency and any individuals and/or community groups about these changes? If so, what consultation process was used? Was it public? If not, why not? Are public submissions available on a website?*
- 8. If no consultation has occurred, why not?*
- 9. Did the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary meet with any stakeholders about changes to advocacy in their contracts and/or agreements? If so, when? Who did he/she meet with?*

Answer

1. No.
2. No applicable clauses.
3. No.
4. No applicable clauses.
5. No.
6. No.
7. No.
8. Not required.
9. No.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 39

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Statutory Review Provisions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Please list all current legislation, covered by the department's portfolio, which contain a statutory review provision/s. For each, please provide:

- 1. What work has been done towards preparing for the review? If none, why not?*
- 2. Please provide a schedule or a workplan for the review*
- 3. When did/will this work begin?*
- 4. When is/was the review due to commence.*
- 5. What is the expected report date.*
- 6. Who is the minister responsible for the review*
- 7. What department is responsible for the review*
- 8. List the specific clauses or legislation under review caused by the statutory provision.*
- 9. List the terms of reference.*
- 10. What is the scope of the review.*
- 11. Who is conducting the review. How were they selected? What are the legislated obligation for the selection of the person to conduct the review?*
- 12. What is the budgeted, projected or expected costs of the review?*
- 13. When was the Minister briefed on this matter?*
- 14. What decision points are upcoming for the minister on this matter?*
- 15. List the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review*
- 16. Will the the report will be tabled in parliament or made public. If so, when?*

Answer

There is no current legislation, covered by ACIAR, which contain a statutory review provision.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 40

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Sunset Provisions

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. *Please list all current legislation, covered by the department's portfolio, which contain a sunset provision/s. For each, please provide:*
 1. *What work has been done towards preparing for the activation of sunset provisions? If no work has commenced, why not?*
 2. *Has any consideration been given to delaying or alerting the sunset provisions?*
 3. *Please provide a schedule or a workplan for the sunset provisions becoming active*
 4. *When did/will this work begin?*
2. *Will there be any reviews of or relating to the legislation before or after the sunset provision is enacted? If yes:*
 1. *When is/was the review due to commence.*
 2. *What is the expected report date.*
 3. *Who is the minister responsible for the review*
 4. *What department is responsible for the review*
 5. *List the specific clauses or legislation under review caused by the statutory provision.*
 6. *List the terms of reference.*
 7. *What is the scope of the review.*
 8. *Who is conducting the review. How were they selected? What are the legislated obligation for the selection of the person to conduct the review?*
 9. *What is the budgeted, projected or expected costs of the review?*
 10. *When was the Minister briefed on this matter?*
 11. *What decision points are upcoming for the minister on this matter?*
 12. *List the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review*
 13. *Will the the report will be tabled in parliament or made public. If so, when?*

Answer

1. NIL
2. N/A

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 41

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Legal Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. List all legal costs incurred by the department or agency*
- 2. List the total cost for these items, broken down by source of legal advice, hours retained or taken to prepare the advice and the level of counsel used in preparing the advice, whether the advice was internal or external*
- 3. List cost spend briefing Counsel, broken down by hours spent briefing, whether it was direct or indirect briefing, the gender ratio of Counsel, how each Counsel was engaged (departmental, ministerial)*
- 4. How was each piece of advice procured? Detail the method of identifying legal advice*

Answer

1. NIL.
2. NIL.
3. NIL
4. N/A

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 42

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Procedure Manuals (Departmental)

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. *Does the department have a procedure manual for communication between the department and the minister? If yes, please provide a copy and:*
2. *When was the manual last updated?*
3. *Who is responsible for updating the manual?*
4. *Has the minister's office had any input into the content of the manual? If so, please detail.*
5. *Who is the manual distributed to?*
6. *Is anyone responsible for clearing communications before they are sent to the minister or the minister's office?*

Answer

1. No
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. N/A
6. CEO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 43

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Vending Machines

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *Has the department/agency purchased or leased or taken under contract any vending machine facilities?*
 1. *If so, list these*
 2. *If so, list the total cost for these items*
 3. *If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure*
 4. *If so, where were these purchased*
 5. *If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased*
 6. *If so, what is the current location for these items?*
 7. *If so, what is the current usage for each of these items?*

Answer

1. NIL

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 44

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Self-initiated work

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. *Does the department have a program for staff to engage in self-initiated work (projects, plans etc that are devised by staff without being directed by the minister's office or department management)?*
2. *Please list all ongoing projects. For each, please detail:*
3. *When did the project commence?*
4. *When is it expected to conclude?*
5. *What will the total cost of the project be?*
6. *Where did the money for the project come from?*
7. *Where is the project based?*

Answer

1. NIL
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. N/A
6. N/A
7. N/A

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 45

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Staff Awards

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *Has the Department / Agency given out awards to staff for any reason? If yes:*
 1. *What was the reason for the awards?*
 2. *What was the criteria for the awards?*
 3. *What form did the award take? (e.g. Certificate, gift vouchers etc)*
 4. *How much was spent on the award?*
2. *How were the awards presented?*
3. *Who presented the awards?*
4. *Was there a ceremony or party for the awards? If yes:*
 1. *Where was it held?*
 2. *Was there a fee for the venue? If yes, how much?*
 3. *How much was spent on catering?*
 4. *How many people attended?*
 5. *Did the minister attend?*
 6. *Did the minister's staff attend? If yes, how many?*

Answer

1. NIL
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 46

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Change Management

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *Has the Department/Agency engaged in a policy of Change Management? If yes:
 1. *Please detail the policy.*
 2. *When was the policy introduced?*
 3. *What are the goals of the policy?*
 4. *How much was spent on consulting for the policy and who was contracted for this consultation?*
 5. *How much was spent implementing this policy?**

Answer

1. NIL

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 47

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Departmental Staff Misconduct

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *Please provide a copy of the departmental staff code of conduct.*
2. *Have there been any identified breaches of this code of conduct by departmental staff?*
 1. *If yes, list the breaches identified, broken by staffing classification level.*
 2. *If yes, what remedy was put in place to manage the breach? If no remedy has been put in place, why not?*
 3. *If yes, when was the breach identified? By whom? When was the Minister made aware?*
 4. *If yes, were there any legal ramifications for the department or staff member? Please detail.*

Answer

1. APSC Code of Conduct as published in PS Amendment Act 2013.
2. No

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 48

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Fee for services

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. Have any existing services provided by the department / agency moved from being free to a user-pay service? Have any additional fees been placed on existing services? If yes please provide a list and include:*
- 2. Name of the fee and a short description of what it covers.*
- 3. How much is the fee (and is it a flat fee or a percentage of the service).*
- 4. The date the fee came into place.*
- 5. Were any reviews requested, commenced or complemented into the benefits and drawbacks of attaching the fee to the service? If yes, please detail and provide a copy of the review.*
- 6. What consultation was carried out before the fee was put into place?*
- 7. How was the fee put into place (e.g. through legislation, regulation changes etc)?*
- 8. What justification is there for the fee?*
- 9. test*

Answer

1. No
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. N/A
6. N/A
7. N/A
8. N/A

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 49

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Documents provided to Minister

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

1. *Excluding policy or correspondence briefs, how many documents are provided to the Minister's office on a regular and scheduled basis? Including documents that are not briefs to the minister and do not require ministerial signature.*
2. *List those documents, their schedule and their purpose (broken down by ministerial signature and office for noting documents)*
3. *How are they transmitted to the office?*
4. *What mode of delivery is used (hardcopy, email) for those documents?*
5. *What level officer are they provided to in the minister's office?*

Answer

1. NIL
2. NIL
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. N/A

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 50

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Merchandise or promotional material

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. Has the department purchased any merchandise or promotional material?*
- 2. List by item, and purpose for each item, including if the material is for a specific policy or program or for a generic purpose (note that purpose)*
- 3. List the cost for each item*
- 4. List the quantity of each item*
- 5. Who suggested these material be created?*
- 6. Who approved its creation?*
- 7. Provide copies of authorisation*
- 8. When was the Minister informed of the material being created?*
- 9. Who created the material?*
- 10. How was that person selected?*
- 11. How many individuals or groups were considered in selecting who to create the material?*

Answer

1. No
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. N/A
6. N/A
7. N/A
8. N/A
9. N/A
10. N/A
11. N/A

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 51

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Domain Usage

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *Please provide a breakdown of the domain usage for the 50 most utilised (by data sent and received), unique (internet) domains accessed by the minister's office. Please provide:*
 1. *Domain name of the website being accessed (or IP address if the Domain is unavailable in the tracking system).*
 2. *Amount of data downloaded and uploaded to the site.*
 3. *Number of times the site was accessed.*

Answer

1. N/A

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 52

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Ministerial Website

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *How much has been spent on the Minister's website?
 1. *List each item of expenditure and cost**
2. *Who is responsible for uploading information to the Minister's website?*
3. *Have any departmental staff been required to work outside regular hours to maintain the Minister's website? Please detail.*

Answer

1. N/A
2. N/A
3. NIL

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 53

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Report Printing

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. Have any reports, budget papers, statements, white papers or report-like documents printed for or by the department been pulped, put in storage, shredded or disposed of?*
- 2. If so please give details; name of report, number of copies, cost of printing, who order the disposal, reason for disposal*

Answer

1. No
2. N/A

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 54

Program: ACIAR

Topic: FoI requests

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. How many requests for documents under the FOI Act have been received?*
- 2. Of these, how many documents have been determined to be deliberative documents?*
- 3. Of those assessed as deliberative documents:*
 - 1. For how many has access to the document been refused on the basis that it would be contrary to the public interest?*
 - 2. For how many has a redacted document been provided?*

Answer

1. NIL
2. N/A
3. N/A

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 55

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Ministerial Motor Vehicle

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *Has the minister been provided with or had access to a motor vehicle? If so:*
 1. *What is the make and model?*
 2. *How much did it cost?*
 3. *When was it provided?*
 4. *Was the entire cost met by the department? If not, how was the cost met?*
 5. *What, if any, have been the ongoing costs associated with this motor vehicle? Please include costs such as maintenance and fuel.*
 6. *Are these costs met by the department? If not, how are these costs met?*
 7. *Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine if a minister is entitled to a motor vehicle.*
 8. *Have these guidelines changed during the specified period of time? If so, please detail.*
 9. *Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine how a minister is to use a motor vehicle they have been provided with. Please include details such as whether the motor vehicle can be used for personal uses.*
 10. *Have these guidelines changed during the specified period of time? If so, please detail.*

Answer

1. No

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 56

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Ministerial Staff Vehicles (non-MoPS)

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *Outside of MoPS Act entitlements, have any of the Minister's staff been provided with a motor vehicle? If so:
 1. *What is the make and model?*
 2. *How much did it cost?*
 3. *When was it provided?*
 4. *Was the entire cost met by the department? If not, how was the cost met?*
 5. *What, if any, have been the ongoing costs associated with this motor vehicle? Please include costs such as maintenance and fuel.*
 6. *Are these costs met by the department? If not, how are these costs met?*
 7. *Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine this entitlement to a motor vehicle.*
 8. *Have these guidelines changed during the specified period? If so, please detail.*
 9. *Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine how a motor vehicle is to be used that they have been provided with. Please include details such as whether the motor vehicle can be used for personal uses.*
 10. *Have these guidelines changed during the specified period? If so, please detail.**

Answer

1. No

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 57

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Ministerial Staff Vehicles

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *Have any of the Minister's staff been provided with a motor vehicle under the MoPS Act entitlements? If so:
 1. *What is the make and model?*
 2. *How much did it cost?*
 3. *When was it provided?*
 4. *Was the entire cost met by the department? If not, how was the cost met?*
 5. *What, if any, have been the ongoing costs associated with this motor vehicle? Please include costs such as maintenance and fuel.*
 6. *Are these costs met by the department? If not, how are these costs met?*
 7. *Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine this entitlement to a motor vehicle.*
 8. *Have these guidelines changed during the specified period? If so, please detail.*
 9. *Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine how a motor vehicle is to be used that they have been provided with. Please include details such as whether the motor vehicle can be used for personal uses.*
 10. *Have these guidelines changed during the specified period? If so, please detail.**

Answer

1. No

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 58

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Lobbyist Register Meetings

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. List all interactions between the department/agency with any representative listed on the lobbyist register*
- 2. List the participants in the meeting, the topic of the discussion, who arranged or requested the meeting, the location of the meeting*
- 3. List all interactions between the Minister/parliamentary Secretary and/or their offices with any representative listed on the lobbyist register during the specified period. List the participants in the meeting, the topic of the discussion, who arranged or requested the meeting, the location of the meeting*

Answer

1. NIL
2. N/A
3. N/A

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 59

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Workplace assessments

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *How much has been spent on workplace ergonomic assessments?*
 1. *List each item of expenditure and cost*
2. *Have any assessments, not related to an existing disability, resulted in changes to workplace equipment or set up?*
3. *If so, list each item of expenditure and cost related to those changes*

Answer

1. \$1,733
 1. 4 x standard workstation set-up assessments.
2. NIL
3. NIL

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 60

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Freedom of Information - Stats

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- 1. How many FOI requests were received to date.*
- 2. How many of those requests were finalised within the regular timeframes provided under the FOI Act?*
- 3. How many of those requests were granted an extension of time under s 15AA of the FOI Act?*
- 4. How many of those requests were granted an extension of time under s 15AB of the FOI Act?*
- 5. How many of those requests were finalised out of time?*

Answer

1. NIL
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. N/A

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 61

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Multiple tenders

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *List any tenders that were re-issued or issued multiple times:
 1. *Why were they re-issued or issued multiple times?*
 2. *Were any applicants received for the tenders before they were re-issued or repeatedly issued?*
 3. *Were those applicants asked to resubmit their tender proposal?**

Answer

1. NIL
2. No
3. No

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 62

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Market Research

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *List any market research conducted by the department/agency:*
 1. *List the total cost of this research*
 2. *List each item of expenditure and cost, broken down by division and program*
 3. *Who conducted the research?*
 4. *How were they identified?*
 5. *Where was the research conducted?*
 6. *In what way was the research conducted?*
 7. *Were focus groups, round tables or other forms of research tools used?*
 8. *How were participants for these focus groups et al selected?*
 9. *How was the firm or individual that conducted the review selected?*
 10. *What input did the Minister have?*
 11. *How was it approved?*
 12. *Were other firms or individuals considered? If yes, please detail.*

Answer

1. \$10,326.00
2. A stakeholder engagement survey
3. Sefton and Associates
4. DHS multi-user list
5. Canberra and Tamworth
6. Survey techniques, interviews, workshops and desktop research
7. Yes
8. Randomly from agency stakeholder lists
9. DHS multi-user list
10. NIL
11. Normal procurement process
12. No

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 63

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Departmental Upgrades

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *Has the department/agency engaged in any new refurbishments, upgrades or changes to their building or facilities?*
 1. *If so, list these*
 2. *If so, list the total cost for these changes*
 3. *If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure*
 4. *If so, who conducted the works?*
 5. *If so, list the process for identifying who would conduct these works*
 6. *If so, when are the works expected to be completed?*

Answer

1. Yes
 1. Refurbishment of meeting rooms
 2. \$46,780
 3. Construction of two new meeting rooms
 4. Monaro Commercial Interiors Pty Ltd
 5. Market testing revealed no suitable IPP provider of renovation services in ACT. IPP vendors in QLD do not represent value for money as relocation costs inflate cost of work and availability to complete the work. Chosen contractor completed building renovations for the Building Owner, is qualified, local builder, who will provide standardisation of current work based upon past works, and is available to commence work in required timeframe.
 6. Completed

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 64

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Wine Coolers/Fridges

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *Has the department/agency purchased or leased any new wine coolers, or wine fridges or other devices for the purpose of housing alcohol beverages, including Eskies?*
 1. *If so, list these*
 2. *If so, list the total cost for these items*
 3. *If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure*
 4. *If so, where were these purchased*
 5. *If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased*
 6. *If so, what is the current location for these items?*
 7. *If so, what is the current stocking level for each of these items?*

Answer

1. No

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 65

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Office Plants

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *Has the department/agency purchased or leased any office plants?*
 1. *If so, list these*
 2. *If so, list the total cost for these items*
 3. *If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure*
 4. *If so, where were these purchased*
 5. *If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased*
 6. *If so, what is the current location for these items?*

Answer

1. Yes
 1. Spathyphillium x 12, Sanseveria x 12, Kentia Palms x 12, Mixed plantings to fill x 6 Partition Planter
 2. \$1260
 3. Costs are not itemised
 4. Leased through Capital Indoor Plants
 5. Quotes provided from three providers
 6. ACIAR, 38 Thynne St, Bruce, ACT

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 66

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Office recreation facilities

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *Has the department/agency purchased or leased or constructed any office recreation facilities, activities or games (including but not limited to pool tables, table tennis tables or others)?*
 1. *If so, list these*
 2. *If so, list the total cost for these items*
 3. *If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure*
 4. *If so, where were these purchased*
 5. *If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased*
 6. *If so, what is the current location for these items?*
 7. *If so, what is the current usage for each of these items?*

Answer

1. No

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 67

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Building Lease Costs

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency / department?*
2. *Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased. Please detail by:*
 1. *Date the lease agreement is active from.*
 2. *Date the lease agreement ends.*
 3. *Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not?*
 4. *Location of the building (City and state).*
 5. *Cost of the lease.*
 6. *Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department.*
3. *Please provide a detailed list of each building that had a lease that was not renewed during the specified period. Please detail by:*
 1. *Date from which the lease agreement was active.*
 2. *Date the lease agreement ended.*
 3. *Why was the lease not renewed?*
 4. *Location of the building (City and state).*
 5. *Cost of the lease.*
 6. *Why the building was necessary for the operations of the agency / department.*
4. *Please provide a detailed list of each building that is expected to be leased in the next 12 months. Please detail by:*
 1. *Date the lease agreement is expected to become active.*
 2. *Date the lease agreement is expected to end.*
 3. *Expected location of the building (City and state).*
 4. *Expected cost of the lease.*
 1. *Has this cost been allocated into the budget?*
 5. *Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department.*
5. *For each building owned or leased by the department:*
 1. *What is the current occupancy rate for the building?*
 2. *If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining being used for.*

Answer

1. \$297,052

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

2. ACIAR House
 1. 1 August 2013
 2. 31 July 2023
 3. Yes
 4. Canberra, ACT
 5. \$480,000 p.a.
 6. Required for all functions of the agency
3. NIL
4. NIL
5. ACIAR House
 1. 100%
 2. N/A

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

Question No 68

Program: ACIAR

Topic: Government advertising/marketing

Question in Writing

Senator Ludwig

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. *How much has been spent by the department / agency on marketing?*
 1. *List the total cost*
 2. *List each item of expenditure and cost*
 3. *List the approving officer for each item.*
 4. *Detail the ministerial or ministerial staff involvement in the commissioning process.*
 5. *Which firm provided the marketing?*
2. *How much has been spent by the department / agency on government advertising (including job ads)?*
 1. *List the total cost*
 2. *List each item of expenditure and cost*
 3. *Where the advertising appeared*
 4. *List the approving officer for each item.*
 5. *Detail the ministerial or ministerial staff involvement in the commissioning process.*
 6. *Detail the outlets that were paid for the advertising.*
3. *What government advertising is planned for the rest of the financial year?*
 1. *List the total expected cost.*
 2. *List each item of expenditure and cost.*
 3. *Where the advertising will appear*
 4. *List the approving officer for each item.*
 5. *Detail the ministerial or ministerial staff involvement in the commissioning process.*
 6. *Detail the outlets that have been or will be paid for the advertising.*
4. *Provide copies of approvals for advertising, including but not limited to, approvals made by the Prime Minister or his delegate, the Minister or their delegate, or the Department or their delegate.*

Answer

1. NIL
2. \$7,244.88
 1. \$7,244.88
 2. CEO job advertisement
 3. Seek, The Australian, Koori Mail
 4. Secretary ACIAR

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/IN WRITING

5. NIL
 6. Dentsu Mitchell
-
3. NIL
 4. Approvals were conducted in accordance with Department of Finance Resource Management Guide No. 408, Recruitment Advertising Policy and managed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).