

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO

Group: 1

Program: Whole-of-Portfolio

Question No. BE15/115

Senator Ludwig asked the following written question from the 27 and 28 May 2015 hearing:

1. How are disputes between departmental and/or agency staff mediated?
2. Are any outside firms contracted to assist with this process? If yes: please list them, please include:
 - a. The structure of payments made to each firm (e.g. retainers, fees for each consultation etc).
 - b. Amount paid to each firm since the last budget.
 - c. When the contract with the firm commenced.
 - d. When the contract with the firm will expire.
 - e. Why the firm was selected to provide the service.
 - f. Please provide a list of disputes referred to the firm, including a brief description of the dispute.
3. How are code of conduct violations by departmental and/or agency staff mediated?
4. Are any outside firms contracted to assist with this process? If yes: please list them, please include:
 - a. The structure of payments made to each firm (e.g. retainers, fees for each consultation etc).
 - b. Amount paid to each firm since the last budget.
 - c. When the contract with the firm commenced.
 - d. When the contract with the firm will expire.
 - e. Why the firm was selected to provide the service.
 - f. Please provide a list of disputes referred to the firm, including a brief description of the dispute.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

1. The method of resolution will depend on the circumstances.
2. Three agencies contracted services.

Australian Crime Commission

iHR Australia

- a. Fee for consultation
- b. \$1,650 GST inclusive
- c. 24 June 2015
- d. 30 June 2015
- e. iHR Australia engaged in the past
- f. Interpersonal conflict between two staff members

Australian Federal Police

Davidson Trahaire Corpsych Pty Ltd

- a. Hourly fee per consultation
- b. \$19,757 GST exclusive
- c. 31 August 2013 (renewed 01 July 2015)

d. 30 June 2018

e. Request for tender process (RFT 2-2015)

f. Matters referred to the service provider are confidential. The details of the service are held within the relevant business area only.

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation

Information cannot be provided for reasons of national security.

3. Code of conduct breaches are managed in accordance with the department's or agency's procedures established in line with section 15(3) of the *Public Service Act 1999*. These provide for a formal investigation to determine whether the code of conduct has been breached.
4. One agency has contracted services.

Australian Financial Security Authority

a. Fee for each consultation

b. \$15,890 excluding GST

c. 17 July 2014

d. 26 August 2014

e. Represented value for money, and had the ability to deliver services immediately

f. Investigate an alleged breach of code of conduct