

**Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee**  
Additional estimates 2009–10; 10 February 2010  
Answers to questions on notice from Department of Veterans' Affairs

**Question 1**

All programs

Topic: Minister's travel costs

Hansard, page 89

**Senator KROGER asked:**

I am happy to put these on notice, but it would be helpful if you could also undertake to provide a breakdown of costs for the minister, his staff, departmental staff including the ADC and any other member of the travelling party, including travel type, accommodation costs and travelling allowances paid for staff and departmental staff. If you could provide a copy of the minister's itinerary for each of those, that would be very helpful, and, if one exists, the itinerary for any other accompanying members on any of those trips.

**Mr Campbell**—By the way, the ADC is not a DVA departmental staffer; it is from the Department of Defence. As I said, for the trip that we are talking about here I have given you his party. Where there were departmental people in country they were not part of his party because they were not with him for the whole trip. I would also make the point I made right at the very beginning that much of the information you have asked for on travel is tabled every six months, I think, in the parliament, but I will go back to the minister and his office and seek details. I have taken it on notice.

**Answer**

Travel undertaken by the Minister for Veterans' Affairs is tabled biannually in the report, *Parliamentarians' travel costs paid for by the Department of Finance and Deregulation*. This report provides details of the dates and purpose of the travel, the countries of destination and the costs of visits.

With regard to departmental staff, an Aide-De-Camp (ADC) may accompany the Minister when he undertakes commemorative activities as part of his portfolio responsibilities.

Senate Question on Notice 1028 asked by Senator Ronaldson on 25 November 2008 and tabled on 16 March 2009 provided details of travel costs for the period 16 December 2007 until 14 November 2008.

Details of travel undertaken from December 2008 until February 2010 are itemised in the following attachment.

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| Dates             | Destination/Purpose  | Staff accompanying Minister                | Itemised details   | Costs (\$)  |
|-------------------|--|--|--|---|
| 9 to 16/12/2008   | <i>Brunei and Malaysia</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Represent the Australian Government at the dedication of the Brunei-Australia Memorial, Brunei Darussalam</li> <li>● Lead a party of six veterans of the OBOE 6 Borneo landings who travelled to Brunei to participate in the Brunei dedication service</li> <li>● Participate in a commemorative service at the Labuan War Cemetery</li> <li>● Visit the Sandakan Memorial Park, the Kundasang and Ranau Memorials and death march sites in Malaysia</li> </ul>   | ADC<br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br>Adviser | (a) transport;<br>(b) travel allowance;<br>(c) accommodation;<br>(d) meals; and<br>(e) other.<br>Total<br><br><br><br><br>Not applicable | 5,580.33<br>-<br>1,398.60<br>515.38<br>-<br>7,494.31<br><br><br><br><br>Nil |
| 20/4 to 26/4/2009 | <i>UK, France and Belgium</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Represent the Australian Government at the Anzac Day Dawn Service at the Australian National Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux, and at the Anzac day commemorative services in Villers-Bretonneux and Bullecourt</li> <li>● Attend 7 meetings concerning the Anzac trail on the Western Front with local dignitaries in Peronne, Calais and surrounding areas.</li> <li>● Sign a memorandum of agreement with Flanders authorities in Belgium</li> <li>● Inspect the Australian War memorial in London and launch the Memorial's interactive web-site</li> </ul> | Adviser and Media Adviser                  | Not applicable   | Nil   |

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| <b>Dates</b>     | <b>Destination/Purpose</b>  | <b>Staff accompanying Minister</b> | <b>Itemised details</b>  | <b>Costs (\$)</b>                                       |
|------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|---|
| 2/7 to 24/7/2009 | <i>Papua New Guinea</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Attend PNG Remembrance Day ceremonies in Port Moresby</li> <li>● Participate in a commemorative service at the Bomana war Cemetery</li> <li>● Present the first Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels Commemorative Medallion to Wesley Akove at Bomana War Cemetery</li> <li>● Meet with PNG Government counterparts</li> </ul>            | ADC                                | (a) transport;<br>(b) travel allowance;<br>(c) accommodation;<br>(d) meals; and<br>(e) other.<br>Total | 2,823.43<br>-<br>690.78<br>207.35<br>20.64<br>3,742.20  |
|                  |   | Media Adviser                      | Not applicable   | Nil   |
| 29/8 to 4/9/2009 | <i>Poland and UK</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● To represent the Australian Government and commemorations to mark the beginning of World War II in Poland on 1 September 2009</li> <li>● To participate in a small wreath laying service at the Australian War Memorial to commemorate the Battle for Australian Day and announce completion of memorial repairs</li> </ul> | ADC                                | (a) transport;<br>(b) travel allowance;<br>(c) accommodation;<br>(d) meals; and<br>(e) other.<br>Total | 9,958.41<br>-<br>839.24<br>669.45<br>13.38<br>11,480.48 |



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| Dates         | Destination/Purpose  | Staff accompanying Minister | Itemised details  | Costs (\$)                                |
|---------------|--|-----------------------------|---|---|
| 3 to 5/2/2010 | <i>New Zealand</i><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To represent the Government at the Veterans Administration Ministerial Forum</li> </ul> | Secretary                   | (a) transport<br>(b) travel allowance;<br>(c) accommodation<br>(d) meals; and<br>(e) other        | 902.50<br>-<br>306.00<br>303.30<br>146.25 |
|               |  | and                         | (d) meals; and<br>(e) other   | 303.30<br>146.25                          |
|               |  | SES Band 1                  | (a) transport<br>(b) travel allowance;<br>(c) accommodation<br>(d) meals; and<br>(e) other<br>(f) | 902.50<br>-<br>306.00<br>215.00<br>122.75 |
|               |  | Total                       | 3,204.30  |   |
|               |  | Chief of Staff              | Not applicable  | Nil                                       |

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**Question 2**

All programs

Topic: 54/11 Rule

Hansard, pp. 90 and 91)

**Senator KROGER asked:**

I was wondering how many of the DVA staff will reach the 54/11 cut-off before 30 June this year.

**Mr Campbell** — I think Ms Schumann can probably give you that figure, but I am not sure that your introduction is totally accurate. We are not experts on super, but I am of sure that bureaucrats —

**Senator KROGER** — It was when the retirement age was lifted to 60.

**Mr Campbell** — Okay. Well, 54/11 is not a maximum superannuation payout for public servants, it is just that at 54/11 the pension is calculated in a different way than if you go at 60. Ms Schumann can give you the numbers.

**Ms Schumann** — Are you looking for the numbers of staff that are over 54/11—that are already 55?

**Mr Campbell** — Yes, I am.

**Ms Schumann** — I do not have the exact numbers by level here at this stage, but I can tell you the proportion. In terms of our overall staff numbers at 30 June last year, we had 2,061, and 47 per cent of those were over 50.

**Senator KROGER** — Forty-seven per cent were over 50. Do you have anything to indicate what those figures would be as of 30 June this year?

**Ms Schumann** — Not with me, no.

**Senator KROGER** — Could you take on notice a request to provide the proportion that you are referring to. I was wondering whether you could give me an indication of how much they would be financially disadvantaged.

**Senator KROGER** — I am interested in getting a breakdown of staffing levels by month and by the level.

**Mr Campbell** — We would have to take that on notice.

**Answer**

It is estimated that on current turnover levels (voluntary separations) that this number (staff aged over 50) will be 834, or 41.7% of total [actual] staff numbers as at 30 June 2010.

At 30 June 2009 (Annual Report data):

Total staff: 2061      Over 50: 848 (41.1%)

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| <b>Actual Class</b> | <b>50 &amp; over</b> | <b>Under 50</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Advocate            | 7                    | 7               | 14           |
| APS1                | 10                   | 12              | 22           |
| APS2                | 35                   | 42              | 77           |
| APS3                | 138                  | 175             | 313          |
| APS4                | 81                   | 126             | 207          |
| APS5                | 185                  | 319             | 504          |
| APS6                | 174                  | 254             | 428          |
| EL1                 | 115                  | 176             | 291          |
| EL2                 | 62                   | 59              | 121          |
| GAPS                |                      | 11              | 11           |
| Legal 1             | 3                    | 9               | 12           |
| Legal 2             | 3                    |                 | 3            |
| MO3                 |                      | 2               | 2            |
| MO4                 |                      | 1               | 1            |
| PAO 1               |                      | 3               | 3            |
| PAO2                | 1                    | 3               | 4            |
| PAO3                |                      | 4               | 4            |
| SES 1               | 12                   | 9               | 21           |
| SES 2               | 11                   |                 | 11           |
| SPAO                |                      | 1               | 1            |
| Statutory           | 11                   |                 | 11           |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>848</b>           | <b>1213</b>     | <b>2061</b>  |

Of these 2061 staff, 262 were CSS members (i.e. for whom 54/11 is in some way relevant). Of the 262, 190 were aged over fifty and 97 of these were already fifty five or older, so the 54/11 situation is no longer applicable to them.

There are 165 CSS members in the Department under fifty five years of age who could potentially be impacted by the 54/11 rule. We are unable to determine whether these staff would be either financially advantaged or disadvantaged by this rule in the CSS as it will depend on their individual circumstances such as length of service and level of contribution.

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As at 1 March 2010:

**Staff numbers by level and month 2009-2010**

| <b>Class</b> | <b>1/7/09</b> | <b>1/8/09</b> | <b>1/9/09</b> | <b>1/10/09</b> | <b>1/11/09</b> | <b>1/12/09</b> | <b>1/1/10</b> | <b>1/2/10</b> | <b>1/3/10</b> |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Advocate     | 14            | 14            | 14            | 13             | 14             | 14             | 14            | 13            | 14            |
| APS1         | 22            | 22            | 23            | 21             | 21             | 21             | 21            | 23            | 23            |
| APS2         | 78            | 79            | 76            | 84             | 83             | 88             | 87            | 79            | 81            |
| APS3         | 309           | 313           | 307           | 307            | 309            | 303            | 289           | 295           | 303           |
| APS4         | 205           | 206           | 217           | 215            | 215            | 224            | 224           | 223           | 218           |
| APS5         | 504           | 497           | 496           | 492            | 489            | 487            | 491           | 489           | 484           |
| APS6         | 423           | 423           | 431           | 432            | 430            | 436            | 434           | 428           | 432           |
| EL1          | 294           | 294           | 288           | 285            | 283            | 275            | 275           | 285           | 271           |
| EL2          | 120           | 116           | 120           | 123            | 115            | 119            | 125           | 116           | 117           |
| GAPS         | 11            | 11            | 11            | 11             | 11             | 1              | 1             |               | 14            |
| Legal 1      | 12            | 11            | 11            | 12             | 11             | 10             | 11            | 10            | 9             |
| Legal 2      | 3             | 3             | 3             | 3              | 3              | 4              | 3             | 3             | 3             |
| MO3          | 2             | 2             | 2             | 2              | 2              | 2              | 2             | 2             | 2             |
| MO4          | 1             | 1             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1              | 1             | 1             | 1             |
| PAO1         | 3             | 3             | 3             | 3              | 3              | 3              | 3             | 2             | 2             |
| PAO2         | 3             | 3             | 3             | 1              | 3              | 3              | 2             | 3             | 1             |
| PAO3         | 5             | 5             | 5             | 5              | 5              | 5              | 5             | 6             | 8             |
| SPAO         | 1             | 1             | 1             | 2              | 1              | 1              | 1             | 1             | 1             |
| SES1         | 21            | 21            | 22            | 22             | 21             | 21             | 20            | 20            | 19            |
| SES2         | 10            | 10            | 9             | 8              | 8              | 8              | 8             | 8             | 8             |
| Statutory    | 11            | 11            | 11            | 11             | 11             | 11             | 11            | 11            | 11            |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>2052</b>   | <b>2046</b>   | <b>2054</b>   | <b>2053</b>    | <b>2039</b>    | <b>2037</b>    | <b>2028</b>   | <b>2018</b>   | <b>2022</b>   |

Total staff: 2022      over 50: 844    (41.7%)



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**Question 3**

All programs

Topic: Consultants—Department employed

Hansard, page 91

**Senator KROGER asked:**

Could you indicate—and I am happy to put it on notice—how many staff would have been engaged on a short-term contract basis?

**Senator KROGER** — If you could do it for the last two financial years, so that I could compare it.

**Ms Schumann** — So 2008-09 and 2009-10 is what you are looking for?

**Answer**

In the financial year 2008-09, five ex-DVA staff were engaged on contract.

In the financial year 2009-10 (to date), five ex-DVA staff were engaged on contract.

**Question 4**

All programs

Topic: Consultancies

Written Question on Notice

**Senator BARNETT asked:**

How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway since November 2007? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and the cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Please also include total value for all consultancies.

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.

**Answer**

Since November 2007 the Department of Veterans' Affairs has commenced 111 contracts for consultancies valued at approx \$17.9m. The list of consultancies including subject matter, duration, cost and method is at attachment 1.

A list of consultancies planned for the current calendar year is at attachment 2.

The Department publishes an APP on the AusTender website by 30 June each year containing the agencies strategic outlook.

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**Attachment 1 to question.4**

**Consultancies commenced since November 2007**  
**Department of Veterans' Affairs**

| <b>Consultant</b>                                  | <b>Start Date</b> | <b>End Date</b> | <b>Contract Value</b> | <b>Method</b> | <b>Subject</b>  |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------|---|
| Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health | 1/04/2008         | 30/06/2008      | \$401,920.00          | Direct        | Research Project on Lifecycle initiatives   |
| Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health | 1/04/2008         | 28/07/2008      | \$297,674.00          | Direct        | Research project The Training for Mental Health Workers   |
| Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health | 26/08/2008        | 30/06/2009      | \$165,000.00          | Panel         | Accredit, manage and report on the compliance with and outcomes of the PTSD Quality Assurance program for DVA contracted PTSD programs                                |
| Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health | 5/09/2008         | 30/09/2009      | \$165,000.00          | Panel         | Improved Treatment Options for Hard to Engage Clients Project   |
| Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health | 8/09/2008         | 30/09/2010      | \$494,450.00          | Panel         | Barriers to Rehabilitation Project  |
| Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health | 8/10/2008         | 27/03/2010      | \$548,460.00          | Panel         | Transition and Family Support Services Project  |
| Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health | 23/01/2009        | 30/07/2009      | \$35,398.00           | Panel         | 0712 - Exploring mental health outcomes of VVCS centre-based counselling.   |
| Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health | 25/08/2009        | 30/06/2010      | \$165,000.00          | Direct        | PTSD QA   |
| Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health | 10/12/2008        | 31/10/2009      | \$139,491.00          | Panel         | 0618 - Psychosocial rehabilitation for veterans   |
| Alan Gilbert Henderson                             | 2/03/2009         | 1/03/2011       | \$32,000.00           | Direct        | Membership as Independent Chair of the Department of Veterans' Affairs Audit Committee and independent advice relating to audit activities relevant to the Department |

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| Consultant                                 | Start Date | End Date   | Contract Value       | Method | Subject  |
|--|------------|------------|----------------------|--------|--|
| Allegany Consulting Pty Ltd                | 7/07/2009  | 15/09/2009 | \$52,000.00          | Panel  | Design and present learning and development module for the VRB.  |
| ANU Enterprise PTY Ltd                     | 9/11/2009  | 30/06/2012 | \$330,538.00         | Direct | ARP project 0903 - research into the wellbeing of female Vietnam and contemporary veterans: an ethnography of military health personnel  |
| Applied Economics Pty Ltd                  | 15/08/2008 | 15/08/2009 | \$79,900.00          | Direct | ARP 0611 Analysis of the rate of progression to disability compensation and health services support of Australian peacekeeping forces post-Vietnam War and the potential long-term cost implications       |
| ARTD Pty Ltd                               | 8/10/2008  | 8/12/2008  | \$21,925.00          | Direct | Evaluation of the administrative processes of the Long Tan Bursary scheme  |
| Astarte                                    | 17/04/2009 | 30/06/2009 | \$47,300             | Select | Services in relation to the establishment of an Australian Interpretive Trail on the Western Front.  |
| Australian General Practice Network (AGPN) | 12/01/2009 | 30/06/2010 | \$432,696 (GST incl) | Open   | Develop and implement and education and training package that provides primary health care professionals with skills to identify, prevent and treat veterans with mental and physical health comorbidities |
| Australian Government Solicitor            | 11/02/2009 | 10/02/2010 | \$10,000.00          | Direct | Legal services for the Request for Tender for private hospital mental health services to entitled persons  |
| Barclay Consulting Pty Ltd                 | 28/07/2008 | 28/12/2008 | \$73,992.00          | Direct | For the provision of corporate communication and change management services  |
| Capgemini Australia Pty Ltd                | 27/07/2009 | 2/10/2009  | \$249,700.00         | Open   | Independent Adviser to Review DVA's ICT Environment  |
| Centre for Military & Veterans' Health     | 14/10/2008 | 30/01/2009 | \$32,546.00          | Panel  | Applied Research Program - Relationship between CMP claims and ADF service   |
| Centre for Military & Veterans' Health     | 14/10/2008 | 30/04/2009 | \$97,809.00          | Panel  | Applied Research Program - Younger Veterans Transition experiences for medically separated ADF members - QLD Uni   |
| Centre For Public Management               | 3/07/2009  | 17/08/2009 | \$20,144.00          | Open   | Management review of VRB registries  |
| CFW Spice Pty Ltd                          | 21/02/2008 | 31/03/2008 | \$131,000.00         | Direct | 0718 - SIF - Senior International Forum - Research into the Disability and Incapacity in the Twenty-First Century Changing Concepts and implications for veterans' administration                          |
| Chatfield Applied Research Labs            | 13/05/2008 | 13/05/2009 | \$36,700.00          | Direct | Consultation regarding painted infill on London, Australian War Memorial.  |
| Colmar Brunton Social                      | 29/1/2010  | 31/12/2011 | \$1,500,000.00       | Select | Conduct of Tier 2 research for Vietnam Veterans family Study   |

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|---|------------|------------|----------------|--------|--|
| Research                                |            |            |                |        |  |
| Colpot Consulting Pty Ltd               | 1/7/2009   | 20/09/2009 | \$105,011.00   | Open   | Project manage a project on enhancing public hospital and ambulance funding models and improving community care arrangements to reduce preventable admissions          |
| Cúram Software Pty Ltd                  | 25/02/2008 | 6/03/2008  | \$18,000.00    | Open   | Systems Analysis   |
| Cúram Software Pty Ltd                  | 14/05/2008 | 30/05/2008 | \$23,400.00    | Open   | Incap Phase 2 – preliminary work   |
| David Robert Dunt                       | 3/10/2008  | 30/12/2008 | \$138,122.00   | Direct | An independent study to examine the broad issue of suicide in the ex-service community, including a number of specific cases over the last three years                 |
| DKTOB Pty Ltd                           | 13/05/2009 | 31/12/2009 | \$10,000.00    | Direct | RAP consultant to provide technical advice on personal response systems in preparation for upcoming tender   |
| EaglePower Pty Ltd                      | 4/08/2009  | 30/10/2009 | \$34,650.00    | Direct | ICTSG - Consultant - ICT Project Management Development & Training   |
| Effective People Pty Ltd                | 11/05/2009 | 28/08/2009 | \$42,000.00    | Direct | Provide advice, assistance and analytical support in relation to examining the operation of the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act MRCA (2004)               |
| Enhance management Pty Ltd              | 19/05/2009 | 06/11/2009 | \$64,790.00    | Panel  | Re-analysis of the Vietnam Veterans' Sons and Daughters Project  |
| Ernst & Young                           | 24/03/2009 | 30/04/2009 | \$28,600.00    | Panel  | Consultancy - ICT Review Phase 1 Official Order FINIMU2009/001- Define and validate the scope of a comprehensive review of ICT Services at DVA                         |
| Ernst & Young                           | 18/05/2009 | 26/06/2009 | \$79,500.00    | Panel  | Consultancy - Independent review of ICT Time Effort Recording and ICT Workforce Capability - FINIMU2009/004  |
| Ipsos Eureka Strategic Research Pty Ltd | 4/09/2007  | 30/08/2010 | \$308,000.00   | Open   | Market Research Services to measure Client Satisfaction  |
| G & M Connellan                         | 1/01/2008  | 31/12/2010 | \$13,524.00    | Direct | Provision of Water Management Services   |
| Green & Green Group Pty Ltd             | 30/01/2009 | 30/03/2009 | \$25,752.00    | Direct | 0701 - For the production of a Journal Article: Australian Participants in British Nuclear Test in Australia 1952-1960 Dosimetry, Mortality and Cancer Incidence Study |
| Grosvenor Management Consulting Pty Ltd | 1/05/2009  | 1/05/2010  | \$198,427.00   | Open   | Research services for the Social Isolation within the Veteran Community project  |
| HEANEY, BLAYLOCK & ASSOCIATES PTY LTD   | 15/04/2008 | 28/04/2008 | \$13,860.00    | Direct | Consultancy for the provision of an IT-specific Remuneration Survey and Strategic Advice Relating to the Engagement of DVA's IT Workforce                              |
| HIFTB Pty Ltd                           | 17/12/2007 | 4/04/2008  | \$62,514.00    | Direct | Review of SHOAMP Health Care Scheme  |
| Hoffmann Donohue Pty                    | 21/11/2007 | 14/12/2007 | \$17,258.00    | Open   | Compliance Workshop on VAPAC Phase I   |

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|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------|--|
| Ltd   |                |                |                |        |  |
| Hoffmann Donohue Pty Ltd                              | 5/02/2008      | 31/03/2008     | \$80,000.00    | Open   | Compliance workshops on VAPAC / VCES - Phase 2   |
| IBM Australia Ltd                                     | 29/01/2008     | 29/02/2008     | \$40,800.00    | Open   | Systems Analysis   |
| IBM Australia Ltd                                     | F/Y<br>2008/09 | F/Y<br>2008/09 | \$46,200.00    | Panel  | Develop and deliver specific training on Rational Testing tools  |
| Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd                              | 13/12/2007     | 12/12/2008     | \$14,300.00    | Open   | DVA Consultant: IMU-ICT019 Official Order IMU2007/070  |
| J V O'Connor Family Trust                             | 2/10/2008      | 31/08/2009     | \$56,100.00    | Direct | A Review and Update of the context of The Right Mix - Your Health & Alcohol Resources  |
| KPMG Australia  | 1/05/2008      | 3/07/2008      | \$40,567.00    | Open   | Audit of the DHOAS   |
| Marisa Gerussi Consulting & Associates Pty Ltd        | 21/04/2008     | 30/06/2008     | \$24,420.00    | Direct | Development of Communication Guide   |
| Mark Johnson  | 22/10/2009     | 31/12/2009     | \$71,400.00    | Direct | Provision of Advice, assistance and analytical support for eligibility. To review PoW cases where the person's DVA records did not contain a service number.                         |
| McCormick Rankin Cagney Pty Ltd                       | 4/08/2008      | 1/09/2008      | \$18,562.00    | Direct | Review of veteran transport program  |
| Monash University                                     | 27/10/2009     | 25/11/2011     | \$22,336.00    | Direct | ARP 0910 study of the health and service needs of older veterans in the MELSHA program   |
| Monash University                                     | 1/1/2009       | 1/7/2013       | \$1,254,590.00 | Direct | The provision of the Sequale of psychiatric conditions and multisymptom illness, follow up mortality and cancer incidence and analysis of serum samples in the Gulf Way cohort Study |
| Ms Donna Lea Bull                                     | 3/06/2009      | 28/02/2010     | \$16,516.00    | Direct | The Revision of a Customised Online Suicide Prevention Training Package.   |
| National Ageing Research Institute                    | 1/7/2009       | 30/4/2011      | \$144,383.00   | Direct | Trial of the implementation of a balance screening and home exercise program through existing community health services  |
| National Ageing Research Institute                    | 1/7/2009       | 5/4/2010       | \$60,775.00    | Direct | Sleeping and falling in older people a pilot study   |
| Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area Health Service | 26/09/2008     | 31/12/2009     | \$19,580.00    | Direct | 0719 - Research Project into Drug Burden Index to improve quality use of medicines in Australian War Veterans and Widows aged over 70  |

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|---|------------|------------|----------------|--------|--|
| Oakton Services Pty Ltd                           | 17/03/2008 | 16/03/2009 | 16,700         | Direct | Provision of Occupational Health & Safety Services   |
| Oakton Services Pty Ltd                           | 7/10/2008  | 15/12/2008 | \$32,505.00    | Panel  | Remuneration review DVA Community Support Advisers   |
| Oakton Services Pty Ltd                           | 23/02/2009 | 30/06/2009 | \$19,973.00    | Panel  | Process mapping and change management activities   |
| Odcopro Unit Trust                                | 14/01/2008 | 15/09/2008 | \$208,054.00   | Direct | 0702a - For a review of chondromalacia patellae claims under the Safety Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988 (SRCA) and the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004 (MRCA) |
| ODS Management Consulting Pty Ltd                 | 1/03/2009  | 26/04/2009 | \$10,120.00    | Direct | Conduct a forum for planning in the Corporate Division to develop the 2009-10 Business Plan and identify client service improvements   |
| ODS Management Consulting Pty Ltd                 | 22/06/2009 | 31/03/2010 | \$144,000.00   | Panel  | Design and development of program to develop and enhance leadership skills for APS 4 to 6 level staff  |
| ODS Management Consulting Pty Ltd                 | 22/06/2009 | 31/03/2011 | \$342,000.00   | Open   | Extension of program to develop and enhance leadership skills for APS 4 to 6 level staff   |
| Office of the Board of Studies (NSW)              | 11/06/2008 | 30/06/2011 | 594,000        | Open   | Developing a major historical component on Kokoda.   |
| Orima Research Pty Ltd                            | 15/05/2008 | 30/06/2009 | \$35,000.00    | Select | Creation, administration and analysis of DVA Staff Survey  |
| Paradox Pty Ltd                                   | 1/09/2008  | 30/04/2009 | \$48,048.00    | Direct | Applied Research Program - Ninety Not Out the provision of research and related reports  |
| Paradox Pty Ltd                                   | 1/09/2008  | 30/04/2009 | \$43,428.00    | Direct | Applied Research Program - One Step Forward provision of research and related reports  |
| Perform Information Design Solutions              | 1/05/2008  | 31/07/2008 | \$12,800.00    | Open   | Facilitate veterans' focus groups for usability testing of new single claim form   |
| Perocin Pty Ltd (t/a Lange Consulting & Software) | 28/11/2007 | 29/02/2008 | \$22,687.00    | Direct | Provision of Tender Preparation Services.  |
| Perocin Pty Ltd (t/a Lange Consulting & Software) | 6/03/2008  | 31/12/2008 | \$13,000.00    | Direct | Provision of Procurement Support Services  |
| Potions Consulting Pty Ltd                        | 2/03/2009  | 1/03/2011  | \$160,000.00   | Open   | Senior Pharmacy Adviser  |
| PricewaterhouseCoopers                            | 17/10/2007 | 25/06/2008 | \$237,050      | Open   | Review Hospital contract rates   |
| PricewaterhouseCoopers                            | 16/01/2009 | 7/04/2009  | \$13,200.00    | Open   | Advice on pricing model for RFT - Continence   |
| Quality Management Services                       | 1/01/2008  | 30/06/2008 | \$37,000.00    | Direct | External investigation and consultancy services  |
| Quality Medication Care                           | 18/01/2008 | 30/06/2008 | \$50,000.00    | Direct | Provision of Consultancy services for Dose Administration Aid Service  |

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| Consultant                             | Start Date | End Date   | Contract Value | Method | Subject   |
|--|------------|------------|----------------|--------|---|
| Pty Ltd                                |            |            |                |        | program   |
| Quality Medication Care Pty Ltd        | 30/05/2008 | 30/06/2010 | \$510,000.00   | Direct | Evaluation Services for the Dose Administration Aids Program  |
| Rambler Pty Ltd                        | 11/06/2008 | 31/12/2009 | \$49,500.00    | Direct | Consultancy services for the Tasmanian E-Health Collaborative Project and its national expansion  |
| RM International Pty Ltd               | 22/06/2009 | 30/12/2009 | \$13,213.00    | Direct | For the provision of project methodology training relating to the Rehabilitation Appliances Program procurement exercise.                                 |
| Robson Huntley & Associates P/L        | 25/06/2009 | 30/06/2010 | \$360,000.00   | Direct | Provide advice, assistance and analytical support to the secretary in respect of the Military Compensation Review. Team member one                        |
| Robson Huntley & Associates P/L        | 3/08/2009  | 14/05/2010 | \$210,000.00   | Direct | Provide advice, assistance and analytical support to the Secretary in respect of the Military Compensation Review. Team member two                        |
| Robson Huntley & Associates P/L        | 31/08/2009 | 30/06/2010 | \$240,000.00   | Direct | Provide advice, assistance and analytical support to the Secretary in respect of the Military Compensation Review. Team member three                      |
| Ronald Bodycoat Architect              | 30/05/2008 | 1/05/2009  | 10,000         | Open   | Design, tender documentation, tendering and administration of construction contract for the renovation of perimeter garden beds at the Perth War Cemetery |
| SoftLaw Community Projects Limited     | 1/07/2009  | 30/06/2010 | \$61,600.00    | Direct | Participate in a review of the current military compensation system   |
| Strategic Outlooks Australia Pty Ltd   | 10/11/2008 | 30/06/2009 | \$47,594.00    | Open   | Deliver three surveys ICT User Satisfaction Surveys.  |
| Synergy Group Australia Ltd            | 12 Aug 09  | 31 Oct 09  | \$63,456.00    | Open   | To provide advice on hospital and ambulance funding models and community care arrangements to reduce preventable admissions                               |
| Taylforth Consulting Pty Ltd           | 1/12/2008  | 31/03/2009 | \$76,787.00    | Direct | To conduct a review on the implementation and affects of the introduction of oneDVA   |
| Taylor Fry Consulting Actuaries        | 31/05/2009 | 30/06/2009 | \$43,000.00    | Open   | Provision of Actuarial Services   |
| Taylor Nelson Sofres Australia Pty Ltd | 28/05/2009 | 31/07/2010 | \$88,000.00    | Panel  | Research and Analysis for the Children of Vietnam Veterans' Mortality Study   |
| Techniworks Action Learning Pty Ltd    | 25.1.2010  | 25/6/2010  | \$78,430.00    | Direct | Adapt existing training materials to, and deliver in an eLearning environment, training modules relating to the MRCA                                      |
| Techpoint Consulting Pty Ltd           | 8/12/2008  | 30/06/2009 | 125,928        | Direct | Business analysis for the development of a War Graves Business Model  |
| Techstrat Research Pty Ltd             | 12/06/2008 | 12/06/2009 | \$40,000.00    | Direct | Applied Research Program - Statistical Analysis and Predictive Model Development for Client Liaison Unit  |

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| Consultant  | Start Date | End Date   | Contract Value | Method | Subject   |
|---|------------|------------|----------------|--------|---|
| Techstrat Research Pty Ltd  | 12/06/2008 | 12/06/2010 | \$40,000.00    | Direct | Provision of Statistical Analysis & Predictive Model Development  |
| TFG International Pty Ltd   | 5/05/2008  | 31/12/2008 | \$364,315.00   | Direct | For the provision of design and strategy services under a panel arrangement – Benchmark Review  |
| The INSTAT Unit Trust   | 21/08/2008 | 30/11/2008 | \$50,000.00    | Direct | 0709 - for the statistical research into the influence of the provision of Rehabilitation Appliances Program and HomeFront services on the rate of hospitalisation of veterans and war widow(er)s |
| The Nous Group  | 19/05/2009 | 31/10/2010 | \$306,900.00   | Panel  | Developing a collaborative, collegiate SES culture.   |
| The University of Melbourne   | 7/04/2008  | 28/11/2008 | \$50,000.00    | Direct | ARP project 0707 The Development of a veteran profile/s using the Household, income and Labour dynamics in Australia (HILDA) dataset  |
| The University of Melbourne   | 9/10/2008  | 31/07/2012 | \$604,213.00   | Direct | 0625 - Australian Peacekeepers: the long term effects on mental health status, health service use and quality of life   |
| The University Of Queensland<br>(Centre for Military and Veterans Health) | 30/10/2008 | 30/10/2010 | \$239826.00    | Panel  | Research – Needs of Spouse Carers of WWII Veterans  |
| The University of Queensland  | 9/02/2009  | 31/07/2009 | \$75,566.00    | Direct | Operation Life Scoping Project pilot for on-line counselling and suicide prevention packages.   |
| The University of Queensland  | 20/05/2009 | 30/04/2010 | \$30,000.00    | Direct | 0902 - A Temporal analysis of the healthy soldier effect  |
| Thomson Goodall Associates Pty Ltd  | 30/06/2008 | 19/12/2008 | \$234,130.00   | Direct | 0721 - Applied Research Program - Consultancy services to undertake a research project on Veterans at Risk  |
| Uniquet Pty Ltd   | 19/06/2009 | 30/06/2011 | \$1,867,141.00 | Panel  | To conduct the Timor-Leste Family Study under the Family Study Program  |
| University of Tasmania  | 18/02/2008 | 29/08/2008 | \$17,000.00    | Direct | 0703 – Survey for the Tasmanian Private Hospitals electronic discharge summary rollout  |
| Wendy Allan Consulting  | 28/04/2008 | 30/06/2008 | \$11,396.00    | Direct | Preparation of 3 reports - change management advice   |
| Wendy Allan Consulting  | 28/04/2008 | 30/06/2008 | \$13,090.00    | Select | Development of a proposal for the Restructure of the Investigation practice group   |
| Western Australian Primary Care Network Inc.                              | 1/02/2008  | 31/07/2008 | \$52,500.00    | Direct | Develop strategies to raise awareness of mental issues  |
| Winch Computer Consulting Pty Ltd   | 14/01/2008 | 8/02/2008  | \$48,400.00    | Direct | Provide expertise in setting up a Balanced Configuration Unit (BCU) IBM Database appliance & assistance and knowledge transfer on BCU   |



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| Consultant                     | Start Date | End Date   | Contract Value | Method | Subject  |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|--------|--|
| (Trading: Datasync Consulting) |            |            |                |        |  |
| Workplace Business             | 5/03/2009  | 7/05/2009  | \$14,926.00    | Direct | VVCS internal HR investigation   |
| Yellow Edge Pty Ltd            | 1/01/2009  | 1/01/2011  | \$1,255,655.00 | Panel  | Design, development, delivery and evaluation of DVA Executive Leadership Development Program |
| Zoo Communications Pty Ltd     | 20/05/2008 | 30/08/2008 | \$30,000.00    | Select | Graphic Design for the DHOAS marketing & promotions  |

**Attachment 2 to question 4**

**Consultancies planned for 2010 calendar year**

| Subject   | Duration                     | Contract Value   | Procurement method                          | Consultant                           | Publication in Annual Procurement Plan? |
|---|------------------------------|------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| Advise on pricing models for Request for Tender   | Dec 2009 – April 2010        | \$61,226         | Extension of existing hospital contract     | PriceWaterhouse Coopers              | Not required.                           |
| Report and assistance relating to the private hospital annual price review  | Mar 2010 – Oct 2010          | To be determined | Use of Panel and existing Service Agreement | PriceWaterhouse Coopers              | Not required.                           |
| Provision of expert consultancy service in health economics, health policy and the continued development of a pay for performance framework | Feb 2010 – Jun 2010          | Up to \$80,000   | Direct Source                               | Health Group Strategies              | Not required.                           |
| Provision of actuarial services to assess adequacy of claims reserves in preparation of financial Statements                                | 31/5/10 – 30/6/10            | \$44,000         | Open tender                                 | Taylor Fry Consulting Actuaries      | Not required.                           |
| Administration of Long Tan Bursary Scheme   | Tenders closing 6 April 2010 | Not known        | Open tender                                 | Currently advertised on Austender.   | 2009-10                                 |
| Review of PTSD programs in Australia  | April 2010 to July 2010      | \$100,000        | Open tender                                 | Approach to market not yet developed | 2009-10                                 |
| Review of Operation <i>Life</i> Workshops   | June 2010 to Dec 2010        | \$100,000        | Select tender                               | Approach to market not yet developed | 2009-10                                 |
| Revision of Australian Defence Force online suicide awareness   | April 2010 to June 2010      | \$30,000         | Direct source (Multi Media Concepts have    | Multi Media Concepts                 | Not required                            |

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| <b>Subject</b>  | <b>Duration</b>         | <b>Contract Value</b>    | <b>Procurement method</b>   | <b>Consultant</b>   | <b>Publication in Annual Procurement Plan?</b> |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|---|---|--|
| training for DVA staff  |                         |                          | original ADF package)   |   |  |
| Qualitative research on demand and promotion of suicide awareness workshops and use of online resources | April 2010 to June 2010 | Up to \$80,000           | Select tender   | Approach to market not yet developed                      | Not required                                   |
| Mental health communication campaign  | 2010 to 2012            | \$400,000 over 3 years   | Open tender   | Approach to market not yet developed                      | 2010-11  |
| Education and training for mental health support for aged veterans, particularly in residential care    | 2010 to 2011            | \$260,000 over 2 years   | Open tender   | Approach to market not yet developed                      | 2010-11  |
| Veteran Families Telephone Counselling Pilot  | 2010 to 2012            | \$330,000 over 3 years   | Open tender   | Approach to market not yet developed                      | 2010-11  |
| Mental health support for veterans and their families in rural and remote regions                       | 2010 to 2012            | \$300,000 over 3 years   | Open tender   | Approach to market not yet developed                      | 2010-11  |
| Improve mental health awareness and access to services for war widow's                                  | 2010 to 2011            | \$300,000 over 2 years   | Open tender   | Approach to market not yet developed                      | 2010-11  |
| Complex case management project and alternative strategies for reaching hard to engage clients          | 2010 to 2011            | \$402,306                | Direct source (government directive)  | Australian Centre for Posttraumatic Mental Health (ACPMH) | 2010-11  |
| Education and training package for primary health care professionals including GPs and practice nurses  | 2010 to 2012            | \$1,130,000 over 2 years | Direct source (services can only be supplied by AGPN and there is no reasonable alternative or substitute due to an absence of competition for technical reasons) | Australian General Practice Network                       | 2010-2012                                      |
| 0904 Long term causal effects of economic and social outcomes of Vietnam conscription                   | 2010 – 2011             | 50,453                   | Direct Source (research)  | University of Wollongong                                  | Not required.                                  |
| 0914 Contemporary factors influencing healthy and productive in worn in late middle age in the          | 2010 – 2010             | 150,000                  | Direct Source (research)  | National Australian University                            | Not required.                                  |

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| <b>Subject</b>   | <b>Duration</b> | <b>Contract Value</b> | <b>Procurement method</b> | <b>Consultant</b>             | <b>Publication in Annual Procurement Plan?</b> |
|--|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| DVA context  |                 |                       |                           |                               |  |
| 0915 Literature review of the contribution of Indigenous soldiers in Australian conflicts since the Boer War | 2010 – 2010     | 36,628                | Direct Source (research)  | CMVH – University of QLD Node | Not required.                                  |
| 0927 Long term costs of disability arising out of the Vietnam war  | 2010 – 2010     | 97,445                | Direct Source (research)  | Applied Economics             | Not required.                                  |
| 0929 Best practice approach to access potential functional decline among older Vietnam veterans              | 2010 – 2010     | 23,404                | Direct Source (research)  | Uni of SA                     | Not required.                                  |
| 0930 Evaluating the effectiveness of the VVCS Heart Health program on improving veteran health               | 2010 – 2010     | 240,000               | Direct Source (research)  | ACPMH                         | Not required.                                  |
| 0931 Behavioural and psychological systems of dementia in veterans   | 2010 – 2011     | 89,525                | Direct Source (research)  | Uni Melbourne                 | Not required.                                  |

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**Question 5**

All programs

Topic: Staffing

Written question

**Senator BARNETT asked:**

- a) How many permanent staff recruited since the supplementary budget estimates (October 2009)?
- b) What level are these staff?
- c) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since budget estimates?
- d) Since supplementary budget estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?

**Answer**

(a) and (b)

Ongoing Staff commencements since 1 October 2009 (to end February 2010) by classification:

| Class |    |
|-------|----|
| APS1  | 3  |
| APS2  | 1  |
| APS3  | 7  |
| APS4  | 2  |
| APS6  | 11 |
| EL1   | 1  |
| EL2   | 8  |
| GRAD  | 14 |
| SES   | 2  |
| Total | 49 |

(c) There have been 37 non-ongoing/temporary engagements since 1 October 2009.

(d) The average length of the contracts for these 37 non-ongoing employees is 19 weeks.

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**Question 6**

All programs

Topic: Staffing—Efficiency dividend/budget cuts

Written Question on Notice

**Senator BARNETT asked:**

- a) Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts? If so, where and at what level?
- b) Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details i.e. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.
- c) What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.

**Answer**

- a) Over the past 5 years total actual Department employee numbers as at 30 June of each year has been:

|      |      |
|------|------|
| 2005 | 2608 |
| 2006 | 2470 |
| 2007 | 2369 |
| 2008 | 2366 |
| 2009 | 2061 |

The efficiency dividend has played some part in declining employment levels. But it is not possible to separate out the impact of this from other factors such as the reduction in budget appropriation linked to declining veteran and family member numbers, business reengineering and organisational restructuring.

- b) As a result of declining client numbers and reducing appropriations, the Department is continuing to manage a reduction in staff numbers. This is being achieved through controlled vacancy management, better planned recruitment, and the strategic use of voluntary redundancies. No services or programs will be cut.
- c) Entry level recruitment of graduates, IT apprentices or of cadets has been largely constant over the past 2-3 years and is anticipated to be steady in 2011 (in the order of 18-20). No reduction is planned.

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**Question 7**

All programs

Topic: Government advertising (general)

Written question

**Senator BARNETT asked:**

- a) What communications programs has the Department/Agency undertaken, or are planned to undertake?
- b) For each program, what is the total spend?

**Answer**

- a) Nil.
- b) N/A.

**Question 8**

All programs

Topic: Hospitality

Written question on notice

**Senator BARNETT asked:**

- a) What is the Department's hospitality spend FYTD? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
- b) For each Minister/Par Sec's office, please detail total hospitality spend FYTD. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.

**Answer**

- a) The Department of Veterans' Affairs spent \$19,608.20 on hospitality from 1 July 2009 to 31 March 2010. As all hospitality expenditure is recorded by the Department under a single nominal code, it would be resource intensive to provide an itemised list.
- b) Nil—as at 31 March 2010.

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**Question 9**

All programs

Topic: Board appointments

Written question

**Senator BARNETT asked:**

These are subject to a continuing order of the Senate. Examine what has been provided and ask about non-answers, or potentially controversial appointments.

What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?

**Answer**

As at 10 February 2010 the gender composition of statutory bodies across the portfolio was as follows:

| <b>Body</b>   | <b>Female</b> | <b>Male</b> |
|---|---------------|-------------|
| Australian War Memorial Council                     | 1             | 9           |
| Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission | 0             | 5           |
| Repatriation Commission                             | 0             | 3           |
| Repatriation Medical Authority                      | 1             | 4           |
| Specialist Medical Review Council                   | 0             | 9           |
| Veterans Review Board                               | 13            | 27          |

**Question 10**

All Programs

Topic: Commissioned reports

Written question

**Senator TROOD asked:**

- a) How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in the Veterans' Affairs portfolio since November 2007?
- b) Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.
- c) How much did each report cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?
- d) What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

**Answer**

- a) Six reports have been commissioned by the Government in the Veterans' Affairs portfolio since November 2007.

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b, c & d) Details of each report commissioned by the Government in the Veterans' Affairs portfolio are as follows:

### **Parliamentary Inquiry into RAAF F-111 Workers**

The Inquiry was announced by the Hon Alan Griffin MP, Minister for Veterans' Affairs on 30 May 2008. The inquiry was held by the Defence Sub Committee of the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade. The report of the Inquiry was tabled on 25 June 2009. The full government response was tabled on 13 May 2010. In the May 2010 Budget, the government announced a package of \$55 million over five years for measures addressing the recommendations in the enquiry report. The terms of reference are at Attachment A.

The costs associated are as follows:

2008/09

- Departmental expenses - \$260,000

2009/10

- Departmental expenses forecast - \$95,000

The total number of Departmental staff involved are as follows:

2008/09

- 2.4 FTE (0.2 SES, 0.75 EL2, 0.15 EL1, 1.3 APS6)

2009/10

- 2.7 FTE (0.2 SES, 0.5 EL2 and 0.7 EL1, 0.5 APS6, 0.2 APS5, 0.2 APS4, 0.4 APS3)

### **Reconsideration of Clarke recommendations not implemented by previous Government**

The Minister called for submissions on 9 September 2008. The review was conducted by the Department for the Minister. The Minister issued a media release providing details of the Government's response to each of the 45 revisited recommendations on 14 May 2010. In the May 2010 Budget, the government announced a \$36 million expenditure over five years to implement measures arising from the revisited recommendations. There were no formal Terms of Reference. There were no committee members.

The costs associated are as follows:

2008/09

- Departmental expenses - \$115,000

2009/10

- Departmental expenses forecast - \$380,000

The total number of Departmental staff involved are as follows:

2008/09

- 1 FTE (0.1 SES 1, 0.2 EL2, 0.7 EL1)

2009/10

- 2.4 FTE (0.3 SES 1, 0.8 EL2, 1.3 EL1)



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### **Review of Military Compensation Arrangements**

The Minister called for submissions 8 April 2009. The Minister has stated that the Review will be reported once all of the issues have been considered. This is expected to occur early in the 2010-11 financial year. The terms of reference are at Attachment B.

The Committee members for the review are as follows:

- Ian Campbell  
Chair of the Steering Committee  
Chair, Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission (MRCC)  
President, Repatriation Commission  
Secretary, Department of Veterans' Affairs
- Major General Craig Orme  
Department of Defence  
Head of People Capability, People Strategies & Policy Group
- Peta Furnell  
The Treasury  
General Manager, Social Policy Division
- Jenny Chynoweth  
Department of Finance and Deregulation  
Branch Manager, Employment and Veterans' Affairs Branch
- Michelle Baxter  
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations  
Group Manager, Safety and Entitlements Group
- Peter Sutherland  
Visiting Fellow at the Australian National University College of Law.

The costs associated are as follows:

2008/09

- Departmental expenses - \$156,000

2009/10

- Departmental expenses forecast - \$1,270,000

The total number of Departmental staff involved are as follows:

2008/09

- 1 FTE (1.0 EL2)

2009/10

- 5.5 FTE (0.5 SES, 1.0 EL2, 1.0 EL1, 2.0 APS6, 1.0 APS4)

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### **Pharmaceutical Review**

The Review was announced as part of the 2009/10 Budget in May 2009. It commenced in 2009 and is expected to be completed in June 2010. There is no published Terms of Reference (ToR) by DVA. The effective TOR for the Review is the Government's 2007 election commitment "...to reviewing this matter in the first term of Government and to establishing, in consultation with the ex-service community, a fair solution that relieves the burden on veterans of the cost of medication to treat their war caused disabilities." There is no committee.

The costs associated are as follows:

- Total cost - \$531,000

The total number of Departmental staff involved are as follows:

- 1 FTE (0.5 EL2, 0.5 EL1)

### **Independent Study into Suicide in the ex-service community (Dunt Review into Suicide)**

The Minister appointed Professor Dunt on 20 August 2008. The report was handed to government on 6 February 2009 and publicly released on 4 May 2009. The terms of reference are at Attachment C.

The Committee members were as follows:

- Mr Ed Killesteyn  
Deputy President, Department of Veterans' Affairs (Chair) –  
Replaced by Mr Gary Collins A/g Deputy President in January 2009
- Lt General David Hurley  
Vice Chief, Australian Defence Force
- Major General Paul Alexander  
Head Joint Health Command
- Mr Martin Bowles  
Deputy Secretary, Department of Defence
- Mr Barry Telford  
General Manager, Policy & Development Division, Department of Veterans' Affairs
- Major General Bill Crews (Ret'd)  
Chair, National Veterans Mental Health and Wellbeing Forum & National President,  
RSL
- Mr John (Blue) Ryan

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National President, T&PI Federation

The costs associated are as follows:

- Departmental expenses - \$138,132.50

The total number of Departmental staff involved are as follows:

2 FTE (1 EL2, 1 EL1)

**Review of DVA-funded ESO Advocacy and Welfare Services**

The Review was commissioned on 24 August 2009. The review is expected to conclude and be reported to the Minister by December 2010. There are no committee members. The Terms of Reference are at Attachment D.

The costs associated are as follows:

- Departmental expenses - \$324,688

The total number of Departmental staff involved are as follows:

To May 2010

- 1.25 FTE (1.0 EL2, 0.125 EL1, 0.125 APS4)

From May 2010 to completion

- 1.5 FTE (0.75 EL2, 0.5 EL1, 0.25 APS4)

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**Attachment A**

**Parliamentary Inquiry into RAAF F-111—Terms of reference**

The committee will investigate and review claims for compensation from former F-111 deseal/reseal workers including the Commonwealth's response to the health and support needs of former F-111 Deseal/Reseal workers and their families. The Committee should ascertain whether the response was adequate, whether it was consistent with the findings of the Study of Health Outcomes in Aircraft Maintenance Personnel (SHOAMP) and whether the overall administration and handling of the program was adequate.

**Terms of Reference:**

The Inquiry will consider the adequacy and equity of the Health Care Scheme in meeting the health and support needs of participants and their families and whether this was consistent with the SHOAMP findings. Matters to be considered will include, but not be limited to:

- The differences, and transitional arrangements, between the interim health scheme and the final Health Care Scheme;
- The timing of cessation of access to the Health Care Scheme;
- The range of treatment and health benefits provided under the Health Care Scheme;
- Whether the current Health Care Scheme is consistent with the range of treatment and health benefits available to persons under other Health Care Schemes;
- The adequacy of arrangements under the Health Care Scheme affected family members (including widows) or serving members; and
- If the Health Care Scheme is not considered to be an adequate response to the health and support needs of participants and their families, consider and report on possible alternatives that are considered to be adequate in light of the findings of SHOAMP and other Health Care Schemes.

The Inquiry will consider the adequacy and equity of the financial element of the Ex Gratia Scheme and whether it was consistent with (i) the findings of SHOAMP, (ii) the Health Care Scheme response (iii) the Tier definitions, and

(iv) one off payments to other veteran groups. The Inquiry will consider, but not be limited to:

- Whether the lump sums available under the ex gratia scheme were appropriate;
- Whether the lump sums available were appropriate given the findings of the SHOAMP;
- Whether the lump sums, when considered along with the benefits available under the Health Care Scheme, were appropriate;
- Whether the lump sums available under the ex gratia scheme were appropriate, when considered along with the full range of benefits and compensation available under other Commonwealth or State statutory schemes;
- Whether the lump sums were consistent with the definitions of Tiers of participants; and
- Whether the lump sums were consistent with other one-off payments made to veteran groups.

When assessing the question of adequate remedies whether regard should be given to the establishment of a dedicated administrative assessment and settlement scheme, and If the lump sums available under the ex-gratia scheme are not considered to be financially adequate, discuss

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what compensatory payment would be appropriate in light of the SHOAMP findings, other one-off payments made to veteran groups, and the full range of benefits and compensation available under other Commonwealth and State statutory schemes or common law damages available under Australian law.

The Inquiry will consider whether the overall handling and administration of ex gratia and compensation claims was appropriate, timely and transparent for both participants and their families. The Inquiry will consider whether, but not be limited to:

- Cross agency cooperation was effective;
- The documentation and records held by both Agencies as they relate to Deseal/Reseal activities was adequate;
- The standard of evidence required to substantiate a claim was reasonable and, if not, whether alternative standards of proof may be used when making an eligibility determination;
- There has been equitable treatment of service personnel, public servants, civilian employees and contractors involved in Deseal/Reseal activities;
- Staffing resources were adequate to produce a timely result;
- There were unreasonable delays in the process, taking into account the complex nature of issues; and
- The overall handling and administration of ex gratia and compensation claims was appropriate and timely.

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**Attachment B**

**Review of Military Compensation Arrangements—Terms of Reference**

The review will:

*Examine the operation to date of the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004*

- Consider legislative and policy issues identified by stakeholders relating to the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004* (MRCA), including the quantum of benefits payable for death and serious injury.
- Document and examine past military compensation operational performance ideally from 1 July 2004 until 30 June 2009 and report on factors impacting on performance.
- Recommend possible legislative and policy changes relating to the MRCA and improvements to claims administration and service delivery.

*Examine the legislative schemes that govern military compensation prior to the MRCA and identify any anomalies that exist*

- Consider unintended differences identified between the MRCA and the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988* (SRCA), Defence Determination 2000/1, the *Military Compensation Act 1994* (MCA), and the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (VEA).
- Consider legislative and policy issues identified by stakeholders relating to transitional arrangements between the VEA/SRCA and the MRCA.
- Recommend possible changes to address unintended differences identified by stakeholders between the MRCA and the SRCA, Defence Determination 2000/1, the MCA, and the VEA and issues relating to transitional arrangements between the VEA/SRCA and the MRCA.

*Examine the level of medical and financial care provided to Defence personnel injured during peacetime service*

- Consider what level of financial and medical care is available to people with warlike and non-warlike service which is not available to people with peacetime service only.

*Consider the implications of an ADF compassionate payment scheme for non-dependents*

- Consider the implications of a compassionate payment scheme for the family members of a deceased ADF member, where those family members were not economically dependent on the member prior to his or her death.

*Consider the suitability of access to military compensation schemes for members of the Australian Federal Police who have been deployed overseas*

- Consider whether the current arrangement to develop an 'enhanced' scheme under the SRCA remains appropriate.
- Consider whether it is appropriate for members of the Australian Federal Police who have been deployed on high-risk overseas operations to have access to the MRCA.

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- Consider whether it is appropriate to develop a standalone compensation scheme for members of the Australian Federal Police who have been deployed on high-risk overseas operations.

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**Attachment C**

**Independent Study into Suicide in the ex-service community (Dunt Review into Suicide)**  
**Terms of reference**

The specific tasks of the study are to:

- Review recent cases of suicide, including those previously identified by the National Veterans' Mental Health and Wellbeing Forum;
- Draw on current national and international research and literature reviews to identify common contributing factors among ex-service members who have committed or attempted suicide;
- Identify lifestyle or other factors that may be contributing to suicide in the ex-service community;
- Identify indicators that could help identify ex-service members who are at an increased risk of self harm;
- Having regard to the Review of Mental Health Care in the ADF and Transition through Discharge, help address suicide in the ex-service community, including highlighting changes to current policies, procedures and practices that exist in DVA that would minimise potential stress;
- Estimate the extent of suicide in the ex-service community, compared to the general community; and
- Prepare a final report to the Minister of Veterans' Affairs by December 2008 with appropriate findings and recommendations.



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**Attachment D**

**Review of DVA—Funded ESO Advocacy And Welfare Services—Terms of reference**

**Content and approach**

The Review of DVA-funded ESO Advocacy and Welfare Services (the Review) will be conducted by David Batchelor and Olivia Witkowski, with advice and support from other departmental officers and will include:

1. reviewing the following programs:
  - a. Building Excellence in Support and Training (BEST) Grants Program,
  - b. Training and Information Program, and
  - c. Veteran and Community Grants Program;
2. conducting the Review in consultation with the ex-service community and other relevant stakeholders;
3. examining current ESO service models in considering future funding models for their delivery of advocacy and welfare services to the veteran community in relation to VEA, SRCA and MRCA entitlements; and
4. identifying interdependencies and interactions of the three programs.

**Objective**

The objective of the Review is to recommend a program that ensures:

- funding levels enable efficient and effective service delivery;
- the range of items eligible for funding are distinct;
- appropriate services are provided for younger veterans;
- the distribution of available funds is transparent and fair;
- there is no duplication of ESO advocacy and welfare services funded by the Government in individual locations; and
- harmonious working relationships are established and maintained.

**Key issues**

The following points will also be addressed:

- consideration of the recent recommendations made by Professor Dunt as well as the Government's Election Commitment to establish a public register of ex-service officials and conduct regular surveys of them;
- the impact of rolling *Grants-in-Aid* into BEST in 2009/10;
- the sustainability and scalability of future programs;
- opportunities for ESOs to share resources and work in partnership;
- ensuring the concept of "volunteerism" remains a key theme;
- options and implications for change to funding cycles and length of grant funding periods; and

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- the effectiveness and efficiency of DVA administrative arrangements, including grant monitoring and acquittal processes.

### **Key program redesign elements**

The Review will consider previous BEST and GIA grant application processes and outcomes, and incorporate the following items for each recommended ongoing program:

- guidelines, operations and administration, including processes, quality assurance, performance measurement and accountability;
- technology and systems,
- eligibility and assessment criteria;
- client demographics;
- location of ESO, DVA and community support groups;
- items that are currently funded;
- the extent to which all programs are meeting the needs of the key stakeholder groups;
- other DVA programs and sources of support; and
- areas of concern from each of the key stakeholder groups.

In considering any new arrangements, the eligibility criteria and items to be funded under the V&CG Program will be taken into account.

### **Deliverables**

The review team will provide a report with recommendations to the Secretary and the Minister.

This will include recommendations for:

- renewed programs that provide appropriate financial support and training;
- sites that would serve as a centre-of-expertise for surrounding more “localised” services, including the nature and extent of technological and administrative needs to support ESO activities;
- streamlined but more rigorous grants application, assessment, contractual and monitoring/acquittal processes; and
- optimal grant allocation timings – that is, frequency of grant Rounds in any given financial year and length of grant coverage (eg one, three, five years).

### **Timeframe**

The Review will commence by end August and will be concluded by mid-December 2009.

### **Governance**

The Review Team will be guided by the National Manager Research, Development and Support on a day-to-day basis. Senior direction will be provided by the Repatriation Commissioner and the General Manager Support Division.

### **Interdependencies**

The Review Team’s analysis will inform the separate consideration being given to the conditions under which the funds remaining from Round 11 will be made available to ESOs within the 2009/10 financial year. The Review Team’s input will be important to the Department making recommendations to the Minister that are not inconsistent with either:

- the decision-making framework applied to Round 11 to date or
- the objectives of the Review.

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**Question 12**

Outcome 1 and 2, programs 1.1, 1.2 and 2.3

Topic: Election commitments

Written question

**Senator TROOD asked:**

- a) What is the status of each election commitment within the portfolio?
- b) Which election commitments are experiencing slippages? Why? Where relevant, what are the revised implementation dates? What are the implications of this slippage?

**Answer**

a)

| <b>Election commitment</b>   | <b>Action</b>  | <b>Status</b> |
|--|--|---------------|
| Provide fair indexation for all veterans' compensation and war widow's pensions - Index all pensions with reference to both CPI and MTAW.                          | Legislation passed on 20 September 2007. Commenced 20 March 2008 with first payment made on 27 March 2008. | Complete.     |
| An increase in the Extreme Disablement Adjustment (EDA) pension - Increase the EDA pension by \$15 per fortnight.  | Legislation passed on 20 September 2007. Commenced 20 March 2008 with first payment made on 27 March 2008. | Complete.     |
| Increased non-economic loss compensation payments - Increase the General Rate table by five per cent.  | Legislation passed on 20 September 2007. Commenced 20 March 2008 with first payment made on 27 March 2008. | Complete.     |
| Making Ends Meet: Utilities Allowance - Increase Utilities Allowance to \$500 per annum, paid in quarterly instalments of \$125 to meet quarterly utilities bills. | Legislation passed on 20 March 2008. First payment at new rate made on 27 March 2008.                      | Complete.     |
| Making Ends Meet: Seniors Concession Allowance - Increase rate of Seniors Concession Allowance to  | Legislation passed on 20 March 2008. First payment at new rate made on 27 March 2008.                      | Complete.     |

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| <b>Election commitment</b>  | <b>Action</b>   | <b>Status</b>   |
|---|---|---|
| \$500 per annum to help eligible self-funded retirees.  |   |   |
| Making Ends Meet: Telephone Allowance - Increase rate of Telephone Allowance from \$88 to \$132 PA for those with a home internet connection. | Legislation passed on 20 March 2008. First payment at new rate made on 27 March 2008.   | Complete.   |
| Pharmaceutical Co-Payment - help address the cost of pharmaceuticals for war-caused disabilities.   | DVA undertook an internal review to assess the policy and practical implications for the Government to address this issue.  | The Minister and Department briefed PMAC and ESO Round Table in March 2010 on the review and some of the issues arising. The Minister released the external consultation paper on 7 May 2010, which invites the veteran community and public to make submissions to the review. The consultation period closes 18 June 2010.      |
| ProgramASIST - Increased funding for the Applied Suicide and Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) program.                                    | Funding of \$1 million over four years has been granted through the 2008-09 Budget.   | Complete.   |
| Implement a comprehensive ADF mental health 'Lifecycle' package.  | Initiated a number of pilots/studies: Transition management project and family support trials; Barriers to Rehabilitation; and Improved treatment options for hard to engage clients. | DVA and the ADF in collaboration with the Australian Centre for Posttraumatic Mental Health have implemented three Lifecycle initiatives. The 'Barriers to Rehabilitation' Study will be finalised later in 2010. The 'Improved Treatment Options for Hard to Engage Clients' study, and the 'Transition Mental Health and Family |

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| Election commitment   | Action   | Status   |
|---|--|--|
|   |  | collaborative (Townsville) pilot' have been completed and final reports are currently being considered. Building on these earlier projects, two further lifecycle projects are currently being scoped. |
| Make community mental health more 'ex-service friendly'.  | The Australian Centre for Posttraumatic Mental Health (ACPMH) was contracted to develop and implement training measures to better support community based mental health workers in relation to service related mental health issues and skills training in evidence-based interventions. | A project developed by ACPMH to improve the training and competency of secondary mental health workers commenced in 2009 and will continue nationally until mid 2011.                                  |
| Conduct an independent study into suicide in the ex-service community.                          | Professor David Dunt, epidemiologist and public health specialist conducted the study. Report submitted to Government on 6 February 2009.  | Complete. The Minister released the report of the <i>Independent Study into Suicide in the Ex-Service Community</i> and Government response on 4 May 2009.   |
| Hold an annual Veterans' Health Week.   | Planning underway for next annual Veterans' Health Week.   | Complete. First Veterans Health Week held 24-30 August 2009.   |
| Extend the Income Support Supplement to war widows under the qualifying age without dependents. | <i>Veterans' Entitlements Legislation Amendment (2007 Election Commitments) Bill 2008</i> was passed 19 June 2008. Letter sent to eligible war widows and system changes implemented. Payments commenced 17 July 2008.   | Complete.  |
| Conduct a Vietnam Veterans Family Study.  | A consultative forum to support the study has been established and an Independent Scientific Adviser and a Scientific  | Underway. The first research project has been completed and released. Several other  |

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| Election commitment   | Action   | Status   |
|---|--|--|
|   | Advisory Committee have been appointed. Individual research organisations have been contracted to manage the various parts of the study. All minimum targets for volunteers to be part of the study have been reached. However, more volunteers are needed, particularly nieces and nephews of the randomly selected participants. | research components will be completed during 2010. Study due to be fully completed by 2012.        |
| Extend bereavement payments for single Special Rate and EDA veterans who die in indigent circumstances.   | <i>Veterans' Entitlements Legislation Amendment (2007 Election Commitments) Bill 2008</i> was passed 19 June 2008. Implementation of measure took place on 1 July 2008.  | Complete.  |
| Automatic grant of war widow's pension to widows of Temporary Totally Incapacitated (TTI) and Intermediate Rate pensioners.   | <i>Veterans' Entitlements Legislation Amendment (2007 Election Commitments) Bill 2008</i> was passed 19 June 2008. Implementation of measure took place on 1 July 2008.  | Complete.  |
| Increase financial assistance for ex-service organisations - additional funds through the Building Excellence in Support and Training (BEST) grants and Training Information Program (TIP). | Applications received and recommendations made to Minister. Successful grants for 2008-09 distributed in June/July 2008. Overall funding of \$14.9M to be provided over four years.  | Complete.  |
| Establish a Prime Ministerial Advisory Council on Ex-Service Matters.   | Inaugural Advisory Council held 9-10 October 2008.   | Complete.  |
| Establish an Inquiry into former F-111 Deseal Reseal workers.   | Committee delivered its report in June 2009.   | Complete. Government responded in the 2010-11 Federal Budget with a \$55m package over four years. |
| Establish an inter-departmental working group to help deal with multiple  | Working group has been established and is meeting on an ongoing basis.   | Complete.  |

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| Election commitment   | Action   | Status  |
|---|--|---|
| agencies  |  |   |
| Establish a public register of ex-service officials and conduct regular surveys.  | Addressed in the Review of DVA-Funded Advocacy and Welfare Services.   | The Review outcomes will be put to the veteran community for further consultation in the coming months.   |
| Establish a DVA hotline to assist ex-service officials.   | Hotline commenced in November 2008   | Complete.   |
| Form a Special Claims Unit to reduce time taken to process claims.  | Established in December 2007.  | Complete.   |
| Examine Military Compensation arrangements.   | Steering Committee appointed July 2009. 68 submissions received, 52 of which are in scope. National consultation with members and former members of the ADF, their families, ex-service organisations, key agencies and other stakeholders has been completed.   | Underway. The Steering committee is considering the issues raised in submissions and during the consultation process. Report expected early in second half of 2010. |
| Revisit the unimplemented recommendations of the Clarke Review.   | Of the 45 original recommendations revisited: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 3 have been accepted and already acted upon,</li> <li>– 4 more have been accepted,</li> <li>– 4 have been deferred,</li> <li>– 12 rejected, and</li> <li>– 22 have been referred for consideration under the current review of Military Compensation Arrangements.</li> </ul> | Complete. Government response delivered 2010-11 Federal Budget with \$36 million package over four years in new spending.   |
| Declare Battle for Australia Day - first Wednesday in September, to commemorate the service and sacrifice of all those who served in defence of | The Minister announced Battle for Australia Day on 26 June 2008.   | Complete.   |

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| <b>Election commitment</b>  | <b>Action</b>   | <b>Status</b> |
|---|---|---------------|
| Australia in 1942 and 1943.   |   |               |
| Declare Merchant Navy Day - 3 September each year, to commemorate the service and sacrifice of Australia's merchant mariners. | The Minister announced Merchant Navy Day on 4 July 2008.                          | Complete.     |
| Provide funds to maintain the Ballarat POW Memorial.  | Military Memorials of National Significance Bill 2008 was passed on 26 June 2008. | Complete.     |

b) No election commitments are experiencing slippage.



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**Question 13**

Programs 1.1 and 1.2

Topic: Electoral reports

Written question

**Senator TROOD asked:**

- a) Are there plans to publish a full suite of electoral reports on the Department's website? If not, why not? If so, when? What data will be included?
- b) Does the Department prepare electorate level reports for Ministers? What data is included in these reports? How often is this updated? Why is the material not publicly available? Request copy of latest reports.
- c) Has electoral specific data been used by current Government in any grants scheme since November 2007?

**Answer**

- a) DVA Client demographic reports by Federal Electorate and Local Government Area (LGA) are currently available from the DVA website and are updated on a quarterly basis. These reports include statistics for veterans and their dependants who are supported under the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (VEA).

The link to the webpage containing the most recent published reports is -  
<http://www.dva.gov.au/aboutDVA/Statistics/Pages/Statistics.aspx>.

- b) Both the Federal Electorate and LGA reports contain breakdowns of DVA Pensioner and Treatment Card holder statistics e.g. Disability, War Widow/Widower and Service Pensioner numbers; Gold and White Treatment Card holder numbers etc. In addition, the Federal Electorate report also contains Average Age statistics for the listed line items.
- c) No. The funding recommendations do not use any electorate data in their consideration.

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**Question 14**

All programs

Topic: Consultancies

Written question

**Senator TROOD asked:**

- a) How much has the Department spent on consultancy services since November 2007? How can the Department justify this expenditure?
- b) Could the Department provide a complete list of current consultancy services. For each consultancy, please indicate the rationale for the project and its intended use. For each consultancy, please indicate why the Department or its agencies could not have undertaken the work themselves.

**Answer**

- a) Since November 2007, the Department of Veterans' Affairs has commenced 111 contracts for consultancies valued at approx \$17.9m. DVA engages consultants when there is a need for specialist or professional skills, when the specialist expertise is not available in house or where an independent evaluation is required.
- b) A list of consultancies that have commenced since November 2007, the reason for the use of a consultancy, the rationale and the intended use is at Attachment 1.

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**Attachment 1 to question 14**

| <b>Consultant</b>                                  | <b>Start date</b> | <b>Subject</b>   | <b>Reason</b><br>A= skills not available in Dept<br>B= need for specific specialist or professional skills<br>C=Need for independent research or assessment | <b>Rationale</b>  | <b>Intended use</b>  |
|--|-------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health | 1/04/2008         | Research Project on Lifecycle initiatives  | A   | 2007 Government election commitment to introduce a range of strategic initiatives to improve and integrate mental health across an ADF members lifecycle from recruitment, service and transition. Research projects scoped were Hard to engage clients, transition and family support trial– rehabilitation study, | The scoping phase of the research projects reviewed and evaluated current services and systems, gaps in services and developed detailed work plans to implement the research<br><br>To inform Government of improvements that can better support the mental health of ADF members while in service and through transition. |
| Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health | 1/04/2008         | Research project The Training for Mental Health Workers  | A   | 2007 Government election commitment to develop and implement a package of training measures to improve competencies of VVCS outreach and DVA contracted counsellors in the treatment of veterans with mental health problems  | The scoping phase identified, key skills and competencies to deliver best practice treatment, and the multilevel training program to be implemented in the second stage of the project.  |
| Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health | 26/08/2008        | Accredit, manage and report on the compliance with and outcomes of the PTSD Quality Assurance program for DVA contracted PTSD programs | C   | Ensure that DVA's contracted mental health providers are providing evidence based group treatment programs for PTSD and comorbid conditions   | Monitoring the effectiveness of PTSD treatment programs  |

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| <b>Consultant</b>                                  | <b>Start date</b> | <b>Subject</b>   | <b>Reason</b><br>A= skills not available in Dept<br>B= need for specific specialist or professional skills<br>C=Need for independent research or assessment | <b>Rationale</b>   | <b>Intended use</b>   |
|--|-------------------|--|---|--|---|
| Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health | 5/09/2008         | Improved Treatment Options for Hard to Engage Clients Project            | C   | Implementation of the Stage 2 of the Study into Improved Treatment Options for Hard to Engage Clients  | Improve targeting of veterans and former ADF members who have mental health problems who are not accessing treatment.   |
| Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health | 8/09/2008         | Barriers to Rehabilitation Project                                       | C   | Implementation of the stage 2 Study into the Barriers to Rehabilitation  | Improve rehabilitation outcomes for former serving members with mental health issues  |
| Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health | 8/10/2008         | Transition and Family Support Services Project                           | B   | Implementation of the stage 2 Transition and Family Support Trial (Townsville)   | Improve transitioning processes for ADF members and their families who have mental health problems.   |
| Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health | 23/01/2009        | 0712 - Exploring mental health outcomes of VVCS centre-based counselling | A   | Leading national and international trauma research organisation with subject matter expertise for the provision of evidence based and best practice research not available in DVA. | Review and evaluation of DVA existing programs and policies over a three and half year period with a view to considering policy and practice implications to support best-practice treatment<br><br>Aligns with DVA's research priority of 'Veterans and ADF members physical and mental health needs'. |
| Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health | 25/08/2009        | PTSD QA  | C   | As above trauma organisation expertise   | Review and evaluation of DVA existing programs and policies.  |

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| <b>Consultant</b>                                  | <b>Start date</b> | <b>Subject</b>  | <b>Reason</b><br>A= skills not available in Dept<br>B= need for specific specialist or professional skills<br>C=Need for independent research or assessment | <b>Rationale</b>   | <b>Intended use</b>  |
|--|-------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health | 10/12/2008        | 0618 - Psychosocial rehabilitation for veterans   | B   | Project focussed on documenting existing psychosocial rehabilitation practices and models of service delivery across the rehabilitation sector serving DVA clients and to provide a review of current best practice in psychosocial rehabilitation.                      | Provide baseline information to assist the development of a psychosocial rehabilitation framework for DVA and inform future research in this area.                                     |
| Alan Gilbert Henderson                             | 2/03/2009         | Membership as Independent Chair of the Department of Veterans' Affairs Audit Committee and independent advice relating to audit activities relevant to the Department | B   | Mr Henderson is the Independent Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee.   | It is a Departmental requirement for the Chair to be an Independent Person 2+1 year contract   |
| Allegany Consulting Pty Ltd                        | 7/07/2009         | Design and present learning and development module for the VRB.   | C   | Allegany is a consulting firm that was contracted to design and present this learning and development module as part of the review and implementation of new administrative arrangements for the VRB at the time of commencement of the new Principal member of the VRB. | To assist staff work efficiently under new administrative arrangements proposed for the VRB  |
| ANU Enterprise PTY Ltd                             | 9/11/2009         | ARP project 0903 - research into the wellbeing of female Vietnam and contemporary veterans: an ethnography of military health personnel                               | C   | Qualitative research into a DVA client group with implications for DVA programs and policies   | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support the physical and mental health needs of female veterans and ADF members through addressing the emerging issue of women's health. |

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| <b>Consultant</b>                          | <b>Start date</b> | <b>Subject</b>   | <b>Reason</b><br>A= skills not available in Dept<br>B= need for specific specialist or professional skills<br>C=Need for independent research or assessment | <b>Rationale</b>   | <b>Intended use</b>   |
|--|-------------------|--|---|--|---|
| Applied Economics Pty Ltd                  | 15/08/2008        | ARP 0611 Analysis of the rate of progression to disability compensation and health services support of Australian peacekeeping forces post-Vietnam War and the potential long-term cost implications       | C   | Data analysis of DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies   | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support rehabilitation and compensation policy and services for veterans and ADF members through a systematic data linkage analysis of DVA and national data.           |
| ARTD Pty Ltd                               | 8/10/2008         | Evaluation of the administrative processes of the Long Tan Bursary scheme  | B   | Review management and administrative procedures and recommend an efficient and resourceful model for ongoing management  | Outcomes applied to subsequent tender process for ongoing management of Scheme  |
| Astarte                                    | 17/04/2009        | Services in relation to the establishment of an Australian Interpretive Trail on the Western Front.  | A   | Deliver Services that will assist with the establishment of the Australian Interpretive Trail on the Western Front.  | Establishment of an Australian Interpretive Trail on the Western Front.   |
| Australian General Practice Network (AGPN) | 12/01/2009        | Develop and implement and education and training package that provides primary health care professionals with skills to identify, prevent and treat veterans with mental and physical health comorbidities | A   | Part of key focus of the 2006-07 Budget Measure: <i>Improving Access to preventative and community-oriented mental health care for the veteran community, particularly younger veterans.</i> | To achieve a greater level of shared mental health care coordination and raise awareness of veterans mental health issues with primary health care professionals including general practitioners and practice nurses. |
| Australian Government Solicitor            | 11/02/2009        | Legal services for the Request for Tender for private hospital mental health   | B   | To access legal advice in relation to the RFT process for the purchase of private hospital based mental health services.   | To access legal advice regarding the development of the documentation and procedures to   |

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| <b>Consultant</b>                      | <b>Start date</b> | <b>Subject</b>  | <b>Reason</b><br>A= skills not available in Dept<br>B= need for specific specialist or professional skills<br>C=Need for independent research or assessment | <b>Rationale</b>  | <b>Intended use</b>   |
|--|-------------------|---|---|---|---|
|  |                   | services to entitled persons  |   | To ensure that all legal requirements were met by DVA in relation to the RFT process.   | ensure compliance with Commonwealth legal requirements.   |
| Barclay Consulting Pty Ltd             | 28/07/2008        | For the provision of corporate communication and change management services   | A   | Barclay is an ICT communications specialist with expertise in ICT change management. The Company was required to provide an ICT Plan. | The outcomes would be used to improve communications and planning in the ICT environment  |
| Capgemini Australia Pty Ltd            | 27/07/2009        | Independent Adviser to Review DVA's ICT Environment   | B   | Independent review of DVA's ICT environment.  | To recommend a future state for the Department that is low cost, efficient, robust and agile with a step by step roadmap indicating the path forward for DVA to reach this future state   |
| Centre for Military & Veterans' Health | 14/10/2008        | 0702a Applied Research Program - Relationship between Chondromalacia Patella (CMP) knee injury claims and ADF service | B   | Data analysis of DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies  | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support training, rehabilitation and compensation policy and services for veterans and ADF members through a systematic analysis of DVA claims data for Chondromalacia Patella (CMP) knee injury. |
| Centre for Military & Veterans' Health | 14/10/2008        | ARP 0715- Younger Veterans Transition experiences for medically separated ADF members                                 | B   | Research into DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies   | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support the physical and mental health needs of veterans and ADF members through transition polices and services.   |

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|---------------------------------|-------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Centre For Public Management    | 3/07/2009         | Management review of VRB registries   | C   | Independent review of the organisational structure and staffing levels of the NSW and National Registries of the VRB  | To inform the Executive of structural and staffing options of the VRB registries.   |
| CFW Spice Pty Ltd               | 21/02/2008        | 0718 - SIF - Senior International Forum - Research into the Disability and Incapacity in the Twenty-First Century Changing Concepts and implications for veterans' administration | B   | Literature regarding DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies  | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support the physical and mental health needs of veterans and ADF members through best practice rehabilitation policy and services.  |
| Chatfield Applied Research Labs | 13/05/2008        | Consultation regarding painted infill on London, Australian War Memorial.   | A   | Consultation regarding painted infill on London, Australian War Memorial  | To ensure the repainting of the lettering on the London Memorial was achieved at the highest level Chatfield Labs was engaged to analyse paint, QA process and review workmanship   |
| Colmar Brunton Social Research  | 29/1/2010         | Conduct of Tier 2 research for Vietnam Veterans family Study  | C   | On 16 August 2007, the Australian Government announced \$13.5 million in funding to DVA to undertake family studies into the health and welfare of the families of veterans and defence force personnel. DVA has established the Family Study Program to administer the studies | The objective of the Family Study Program is to deliver a research study program to examine the effects of military service on the families of deployed personnel, including Vietnam veterans and subsequent deployments such as East Timor |



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|---------------------------|-------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Colpot Consulting Pty Ltd | 1/7/2009          | Project manage a project on enhancing public hospital and ambulance funding models and improving community care arrangements to reduce preventable admissions | B   | To access the expert skills of a project manager with experience in the subject matter.   | To inform policy development on enhancing public hospital and ambulance funding models and improving community care arrangements.    |
| Cúram Software Pty Ltd    | 25/02/2008        | Systems Analysis  | A   | Provide overview of overall project commitments by DVA  | To provide advice in regards to prioritisation of work between the Cúram Transformation Program and other DVA project work           |
| Cúram Software Pty Ltd    | 14/05/2008        | Incap Phase 2 – preliminary work  | A   | To determine scope for Incap Phase 2 project  | Preparatory work to evaluate workforce planning requirements for Incap Phase 2 project   |
| David Robert Dunt         | 3/10/2008         | An independent study to examine the broad issue of suicide in the ex-service community, including a number of specific cases over the last three years        | B   | Part of Labor's Plan for Veteran Affairs. The study is an important first step in helping identify and provide the support needed to our veterans dealing with mental health problems, who may be at increased risk of self harm and suicide. | The Suicide Study will guide the Government in further refining programs to better help members of the ex-service community at risk. |
| DKTOB Pty Ltd             | 13/05/2009        | RAP consultant to provide technical advice on Personal Response Systems in preparation for upcoming tender  | B   | Identify if the Department is currently abreast of latest advancements in new technology prior to specifying tender requirements  | Procurement of Personal Response System services through RFT   |
| EaglePower Pty Ltd        | 4/08/2009         | ICTSG - Consultant - ICT Project Management Development & Training  | C   | To deliver training analysis and advice in relation to project and program. Management. A need for independent  | To provide a firm grounding to staff in project and program management with an aim to  |

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|----------------------------|-------------------|--|---|---|---|
|                            |                   |  |   | research and assessment required the hiring of a consultant   | facilitate process improvements and efficient service management  |
| Effective People Pty Ltd   | 11/05/2009        | Provide a overview of the current Military Compensation Arrangements   | A   | To provide advice, assistance and analytical support in relation to examining the operation of the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act (MRCA) 2004   | Formulating strategies aimed at improving the overall management of military compensation arrangements, evaluating possible changes to legislation and schemes and the preparation of briefing/issue papers for the Secretary/Review Steering Committee |
| Enhance management Pty Ltd | 19/05/2009        | Re-analysis of the Vietnam Veterans' Sons and Daughters Project  | C   | On 16 August 2007, the Australian Government announced \$13.5 million in funding to DVA to undertake family studies into the health and welfare of the families of veterans and defence force personnel. DVA has established the Family Study Program to administer the studies | The objective of the Family Study Program is to deliver a research study program to examine the effects of military service on the families of deployed personnel, including Vietnam veterans and subsequent deployments such as East Timor             |
| Ernst & Young              | 24/03/2009        | Consultancy - ICT Review Phase 1 Official Order FINIMU2009/001- Define and validate the scope of a comprehensive review of ICT Services at DVA | B   | To define and validate the scope of a comprehensive review of ICT Services at DVA . Need for specialised professional skill required the hiring of a consultant   | To provide a foundation for a review giving an assessment of the current status of the ICT environment within DVA   |

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|---|-------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Ernst & Young                           | 18/05/2009        | Consultancy - Independent review of ICT Time Effort Recording and ICT Workforce Capability - FINIMU2009/004  | B   | An independent review of ICT Time Effort recording and ICT Workforce Capability.  | To address audit recommendations on DVA's existing Time & Effort recording while also addressing the impact of the lack of corporate knowledge of DVA's legacy systems on the ICT Workforce Strategy |
| Ipsos Eureka Strategic Research Pty Ltd | 4/09/2007         | Market Research Services to measure Client Satisfaction  | C   | Assessment of the quality of service delivery   | Provide targets for quality improvement measures for the Department's service delivery   |
| G & M Connellan                         | 1/01/2008         | Provision of Water Management Services   | A   | Provide water management services including the development of a water management strategy in relation to OAWG operations in Australia. | To ensure that in dealing with climate change and water restrictions that the water resources are being used effectively on major OAWG sites in Australia  |
| Green & Green Group Pty Ltd             | 30/01/2009        | 0701 - For the production of a Journal Article: Australian Participants in British Nuclear Test in Australia 1952-1960 Dosimetry, Mortality and Cancer Incidence Study | C   | Health research regarding DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies   | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support the physical and mental health needs of participants in the British Nuclear Test in Australia 1952-1960  |
| Grosvenor Management Consulting Pty     | 1/05/2009         | Research services for the Social Isolation within the Veteran Community project  | B   | Investigate effects of social isolation (S.I) within the veteran community, including whether military service is a                     | Recommendations to assist development of policy initiatives that will assist to alleviate S.I  |

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| Ltd                                   |                   |   |   | predictor for S.I – particularly focussing on under 45s   | within the veteran community  |
| HEANEY, BLAYLOCK & ASSOCIATES PTY LTD | 15/04/2008        | Consultancy for the provision of an IT-specific Remuneration Survey and Strategic Advice Relating to the Engagement of DVA's IT Workforce | B   | The provision of an IT-specific Remuneration Survey and strategic advice relating to the engagement of DVA's IT workforce   | To assist the Department in making an informed decision regarding IT staff, in relation to a new Collective Agreement following the decision to remove AWA's from remuneration packages. Study provided an independent assessment of market value IT workforce. |
| HIFTB Pty Ltd                         | 17/12/2007        | Review of SHOAMP Health Care Scheme   | B   | Consultant's role was to examine similarities between the SHCS and existing DVA compensation schemes. Consultant had detailed knowledge of DVA's compensation schemes from previous work. | To provide recommendations for the future management of the Scheme  |
| Hoffmann Donohue Pty Ltd              | 21/11/2007        | Compliance Workshop on VAPAC Phase I  | B   | Expertise on User Centred Design methodology not available in the Department  | Provide facilitation and User Centred Design expertise  |
| Hoffmann Donohue Pty Ltd              | 5/02/2008         | Compliance workshops on VAPAC / VCES - Phase 2  | B   | Expertise on User Centred Design methodology not available in the Department  | Provide facilitation and User Centred Design expertise  |
| IBM Australia Ltd                     | 29/01/2008        | Systems Analysis  | A   | Analysis of DVA systems   | Ongoing development of DVA ICT systems  |

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| IBM Australia Ltd                              | F/Y 2008/09       | Develop and deliver specific training on Rational Testing tools  | B   | Training in system tools that form a part of DVA's ICT development lifecycle                               | Training for DVA staff   |
| Icon Recruitment Pty Ltd                       | 13/12/2007        | DVA Consultant: IMU-ICT019 Official Order IMU2007/070  | C   | To be an independent member of the Information Committee, attending and providing advice on matters raised | To provide independent advice on matters raised in the Information Committee and recommend courses of action   |
| J V O'Connor Family Trust                      | 2/10/2008         | A Review and Update of the context of The Right Mix - Your Health & Alcohol Resources  | B   | To revise The Right Mix - Your Health & Alcohol Resources to reflect new NHMRC alcohol guidelines          | Updated resources available to the veteran community.  |
| KPMG Australia                                 | 1/05/2008         | Audit of the DHOAS   | C   | Yearly audit required by 30 August, report provided. DHOAS Contract Requirement.                           | Annual audit to provide assurance that subsidies have been correctly paid.   |
| Marisa Gerussi Consulting & Associates Pty Ltd | 21/04/2008        | Development of Communication Guide   | B   | To provide DVA with materials to support greater consistency in internal and external communications.      | A DVA-specific communication guide available to all staff on the intranet.   |
| Mark Johnson                                   | 22/10/2009        | Provision of Advice, assistance and analytical support for eligibility. To review PoW cases where the person's DVA records did not contain a service number. | B   | Ensuring the integrity of the statutory requirement in the VEA were maintained                             | To ensure that there were no other persons who may be incorrectly receiving pension payment as a PoW. For internal use unless other fraudulent claims were ascertained |
| McCormick                                      | 4/08/2008         | Review of veteran transport  | C   | Undertake international search for cost  | The report was used to inform  |

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| Rankin Cagney Pty Ltd |                   | program  |   | effective replacement of transport booking IT system.  | Commission of options and indicative costs for replacing ageing IT system.   |
| Monash University     | 27/10/2009        | ARP 0910 study of the health and service needs of older veterans: A longitudinal analysis  | C   | Data analysis of DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies   | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support the physical needs of older DVA clients through a systematic data linkage analysis of DVA and national data.   |
| Monash University     | 1/1/2009          | The provision of the Sequale of psychiatric conditions and multisymptom illness, follow up mortality and cancer incidence and analysis of serum samples in the Gulf Way cohort Study | C   | Health research regarding DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies  | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support the physical and mental health needs of Gulf War veterans through a longitudinal analysis. This information will also assist with services for younger veterans. |
| Ms Donna Lea Bull     | 3/06/2009         | The Revision of a Customised Online Suicide Prevention Training Package.   | B   | Part of 2006-07 Budget Measure: <i>Improving Access to preventative and community-orientated mental health care for the veteran community, particularly younger veterans Aimed to improve the mental health literacy of DVA staff particularly in the area of suicide prevention</i> | To provide an online suicide awareness training package for DVA staff.   |

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|---|-------------------|--|---|--|--|
| National Ageing Research Institute                    | 1/7/2009          | Trial of the implementation of a balance screening and home exercise program through existing community health services        | C   | Trial research regarding DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies   | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support the physical needs of older DVA clients through best practice community aged care polices and services.        |
| National Ageing Research Institute                    | 1/7/2009          | Sleeping and falling in older people a pilot study   | C   | Trial research regarding DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies   | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support the physical needs of older DVA clients with regards falls prevention best practice.                           |
| Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area Health Service | 26/09/2008        | Research Project into Drug Burden Index to improve quality use of medicines in Australian War Veterans and Widows aged over 70 | B   | To conduct research into the prevalence of the Drug Burden Index (DBI) in the veteran population. The aim of the research is to assess exposure of the veteran population to medications with anticholinergic & sedative effects using the DBI, and to correlate the DBI in the veteran population with mortality. | To inform the Department of implications of these medications being used by the veteran community and to assist with improving the quality use of these medications. |
| Oakton Services Pty Ltd                               | 17/03/2008        | Provision of Occupational Health & Safety Services   | B   | Provision of Occupational Health & Safety Services relating to advice relevant to OAWG Operations in Australia.  | Services include a gap analysis of OAWG processes against Australian standards and legislation.  |
| Oakton Services Pty Ltd                               | 7/10/2008         | Remuneration review DVA Community Support Advisers   | C   | Review of the remuneration of Community Support Advisers   | To ensure the adequate remuneration of community Support Advisers engaged by DVA   |

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| Oakton Services Pty Ltd           | 23/02/2009        | Process mapping and change management activities   | B   | Business process mapping, document review, interviews to develop a single process for processing claims under three Acts. | For the development of a single DVA claim form  |
| Odcopro Unit Trust                | 14/01/2008        | Review of chondromalacia patellae claims under the Safety Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988 (SRCA) and the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004 (MRCA) | C   | Trial research regarding DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies                                | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support rehabilitation and compensation policy and services for veterans and ADF members through a systematic analysis of DVA MRCA and SRCA claims data for Chondromalacia Patella (CMP) knee injury. |
| ODS Management Consulting Pty Ltd | 1/03/2009         | Corporate Planning Day   | A   | Conduct a forum over one day for business Planning in the Corporate Division  | A business plan for the 2009-10 F/Y would be developed along with more defined client service improvements  |
| ODS Management Consulting Pty Ltd | 22/06/2009        | Design and development of program to develop and enhance leadership skills for APS 4 to 6 level staff  | B   | Professional services required to design and deliver leadership development workshop                                      | To design and deliver leadership development workshops for APS 4 to 6 level staff   |



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|--------------------------------------|-------------------|---|---|--|---|
| ODS Management Consulting Pty Ltd    | 17/12/2009        | Extension of program to develop and enhance leadership skills for APS4 to 6 level staff   | B   | Professional services required to design and deliver leadership development workshop       | To design and deliver leadership development workshops for APS 4 to 6 level staff   |
| Office of the Board of Studies (NSW) | 11/06/2008        | Developing a major historical component on Kokoda.  | B   | Developing a major historical component on Kokoda  | Enhancing the website by developing multimedia-rich content, including Virtual Tour animations; and developing an education resource on Kokoda  |
| Orima Research Pty Ltd               | 15/05/2008        | Creation, administration and analysis of DVA Staff Survey   | B   | Professional services required   | To develop, administer and analyse staff survey   |
| Paradox Pty Ltd                      | 1/09/2008         | ARP0802 'Ninety Not Out' – Analysis of hospital services for nonagenarians during 2006-2007 - the provision of research and related reports | B   | Trial research regarding DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support the physical needs of older DVA clients with regards hospital services through a systematic data linkage analysis of DVA and national data. |

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|---|-------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Paradox Pty Ltd                                   | 1/09/2008         | ARP0803 'One Step Forward' – Analysis of long stay rehabilitation episodes for nonagenarians during 2006-2007 - provision of research and related reports | B   | Health research regarding DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies   | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support the physical needs of older DVA clients with regards hospital services through a systematic data linkage analysis of DVA and national data.   |
| Perform Information Design Solutions              | 1/05/2008         | Facilitate veterans' focus groups for usability testing of new single claim form  | B   | Professional services required to design and deliver workshop   | To design and deliver managing dispersed team workshops   |
| Perocin Pty Ltd (t/a Lange Consulting & Software) | 28/11/2007        | Provision of Tender Preparation Services.   | A   | Assist in the preparation of tender documentation.  | To be used for tender activities in the upgrade of PAHRIS.  |
| Perocin Pty Ltd (t/a Lange Consulting & Software) | 6/03/2008         | Provision of Procurement Support Services   | B   | Assist in Tender preparation  | To prepare professional tender documents  |
| Potions Consulting Pty Ltd                        | 2/03/2009         | Senior Pharmacy Adviser   | B   | Advice is to be evidenced based and provided in the context of a sound knowledge of the health industry generally and the contractor's profession specifically. | To provide DVA advice on new pharmaceutical treatment programs or technologies where they are being considered by DVA for policy development or individual care of entitled persons; pharmaceutical treatments that are proposed by providers under DVA prior approval arrangements |

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|---------------------------------|-------------------|---|---|---|---|
|                                 |                   |   |   |   | and conflicting provider advice on health care for a veteran.   |
| PricewaterhouseCoopers          | 17/10/2007        | Review Hospital contract rates  | B   | To provide analysis of private hospital sector cost drivers for assessment and the recommendation of an indexation rate for the annual price reviews. This will enable DVA to provide private hospitals with appropriate fee increases to enable them to continue to provide high quality hospital services to the veteran community. | Preparation of report and recommended rate of indexation to be made available to hospitals on request outlining cost drivers impacting on private hospitals as well as ad hoc advice on exceptional claims during negotiations. |
| PricewaterhouseCoopers          | 16/01/2009        | Advice on pricing model for RFT - Continence                                  | C   | A better understanding of the prices paid for continence products between major purchasers and the Department and some possible reasoning for the price differences.  | The continence price analysis report was used to inform the continence Request for Tender specifications and the new continence contract arrangements.  |
| Quality Management Services     | 1/01/2008         | External investigation and consultancy services                               | C   | A better understanding of the prices paid for Personal Response System (PRS) products between major purchasers and DVA and some possible reasoning for these differences.   | The PRS price analysis report was used to inform the PRS RFT specifications and the new PRS contract arrangements.  |
| Quality Medication Care Pty Ltd | 18/01/2008        | Provision of Consultancy services for Dose Administration Aid Service program | B   | Assistance required to better understand elements of the current Mobility and Functional Supports (MFS) procurement models, various MFS industries and pricing structure.   | The MFS analysis report will be used to inform the MFS RFT specifications and future MFS contract arrangements.   |

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|---------------------------------|-------------------|---|---|--|---|
| Quality Medication Care Pty Ltd | 30/05/2008        | Evaluation Services for the Dose Administration Aids Program  | B   | Provide strategic advice in implementing the Dose Administration Aids Service; identify & provide valid & reliable data collection tools for the Service; provide advice & assistance with data collection and provide data analysis to inform the Service's implementation. | Implement DVA's Dose Administration Aids Service.   |
| Rambler Pty Ltd                 | 11/06/2008        | Consultancy services for the Tasmanian E-Health Collaborative Project and its national expansion                                    | B   | To provide advice and support to DVA during an e-health initiative undertaken by a private hospital provider.  | To improve health outcomes for DVA patients.  |
| RM International (RMI) Pty Ltd  | 22/06/2009        | For the provision of project management support relating to the Rehabilitation Appliances Program procurement exercise.             | B   | Assistance/training required in systematically analysing and resolving a complex issue – Mobility and Functional Supports (MFS) tender.  | The RMI workshop results will help inform the Repatriation Commission on the way forward with the MFS tender.   |
| Robson Huntley & Associates P/L | 25/06/2009        | Provide advice, assistance and analytical support to the secretary in respect of the Military Compensation Review - Team member one | B   | To provide advice, assistance and analytical support in relation to the review of the operation of the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act (MRCA) 2004  | Formulating strategies aimed at improving the overall management of military compensation arrangements, evaluating possible changes to legislation and schemes and the preparation of briefing/issue papers for the Secretary/Review Steering Committee |

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|------------------------------------|------------|---|--|---|---|
| Robson Huntley & Associates P/L    | 3/08/2009  | Provide advice, assistance and analytical support to the Secretary in respect to the Military Compensation Review - Team member two                       | B  | To provide advice, assistance and analytical support in relation to examining the operation of the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act (MRCA) 2004 | Formulating strategies aimed at improving the overall management of military compensation arrangements, evaluating possible changes to legislation and schemes and the preparation of briefing/issue papers for the Secretary/Review Steering Committee |
| Robson Huntley & Associates P/L    | 31/08/2009 | Provide advice, assistance and analytical support to the Secretary in respect of the Military Compensation Review - Team member three                     | B  | To provide advice, assistance and analytical support in relation to examining the operation of the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act (MRCA) 2004 | Formulating strategies aimed at improving the overall management of military compensation arrangements, evaluating possible changes to legislation and schemes and the preparation of briefing/issue papers for the Secretary/Review Steering Committee |
| Ronald Bodycoat Architect          | 30/05/2008 | Design, tender documentation, tendering and administration of construction contract for the renovation of perimeter garden beds at the Perth War Cemetery | B  | Assistance with the design, tender and administration of contracts  | Design, tender documentation, tendering and administration of construction contract for the renovation of perimeter garden beds at the Perth War Cemetery.  |
| SoftLaw Community Projects Limited | 1/07/2009  | Participate in a review of the current military compensation system   | B  | To participate in a review of the current military compensation system as a member of the Steering Committee for the Review of Military Compensation        | Provision of an independent member of the steering committee for the Review of Military Compensation Arrangements, as   |

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|--|-------------------|---|---|---|--|
|  |                   |   |   | Arrangements.   | appointed by the Minister for Veterans' Affairs  |
| Strategic Outlooks Australia Pty Ltd   | 10/11/2008        | Deliver three ICT User Satisfaction surveys.  | A   | To provide expertise in continuing a regular tracking of ICT needs through an ICT User Satisfaction survey.   | To build knowledge around our clients' (internal) needs and deliver a quality ICT service. This is also an opportunity to build our image and relationship with clients; provide a constructive outlet for clients; more effectively manage ICT resources and ensure we address client concerns. |
| Synergy Group Australia Ltd            | 12 Aug 09         | To provide advice on hospital and ambulance funding models and community care arrangements to reduce preventable admissions | B   | To provide expertise on hospital and ambulance funding.   | To inform policy development on enhancing public hospital and ambulance funding models and improving community care arrangements.  |
| Taylforth Consulting Pty Ltd           | 1/12/2008         | To conduct a review on the implementation and affects of the introduction of oneDVA   | C   | Conduct an independent review of the OneDVA organisation and structure  | Refine and further develop the structure of DVA through the Lindenmeyer Report   |
| Taylor Fry Consulting Actuaries        | 31/05/2009        | Provision of Actuarial Services   | B   | Requirement to have claims reserves actuarially assessed.   | Advice on adequacy of claims reserves and Preparation of End of Year Financial Statements  |
| Taylor Nelson Sofres Australia Pty Ltd | 28/05/2009        | Research and Analysis for the Children of Vietnam Veterans' Mortality Study   | C   | On 16 August 2007, the Australian Government announced \$13.5 million in funding to DVA to undertake family studies into the health and welfare of the families of veterans and defence | The objective of the Family Study Program is to deliver a research study program to examine the effects of military service on the families of deployed personnel,   |

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|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--|---|--|---|
|                                     |                   |  |   | force personnel. DVA has established the Family Study Program to administer the studies  | including Vietnam veterans and subsequent deployments such as East Timor  |
| Techniworks Action Learning Pty Ltd | 25.1.2010         | Adapt existing training materials and deliver in an eLearning environment, training modules relating to the MRCA | A   | Enable on line training for Pension officers in the External Service Organisation network  | The provision of this training will provide ongoing benefits in terms of access to training and ensure currency of training documents and methodology                     |
| Techpoint Consulting Pty Ltd        | 8/12/2008         | Business analysis for the development of a War Graves Business Model   | A   | Business analysis for the development of a War Graves Business Model   | To determine requirements for the replacement of the 1980s IT systems currently used  |
| Techstrat Research Pty Ltd          | 12/06/2008        | ARP0722a- Statistical Analysis and Predictive Model Development for Client Liaison Unit                          | B   | Literature research regarding DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies. It will assist the Client Liaison Unit in identifying at risk and complex cases that require extra support/assistance | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support the physical and mental health needs of at risk DVA clients through a systematic data linkage analysis of DVA data. |
| Techstrat Research Pty Ltd          | 12/06/2008        | Provision of Statistical Analysis & Predictive Model Development   | B   | Literature research regarding DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies  | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support the physical and mental health needs of at risk DVA clients through a systematic data linkage analysis of DVA data. |

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|-----------------------------|-------------------|--|---|--|--|
|                             |                   |  |   |  |  |
| TFG International Pty Ltd   | 5/05/2008         | For the provision of design and strategy services under a panel arrangement – Benchmark Review   | C   | Undertake a review of other Australian and International agencies that provide services similar to those provided by DVA   | The outcomes were used to set benchmarks and identify and monitor areas of DVA services that could be improved.  |
| The INSTAT Unit Trust       | 21/08/2008        | For the statistical research into the influence of the provision of Rehabilitation Appliances Program and HomeFront services on the rate of hospitalisation of veterans and war widow(er)s | C   | Establish if a correlation existed between use of rails and reduction in falls. Endorsed by DVA's Health Research Ethics Committee as an approved area of research | Validate the ongoing provision of rails to eligible persons and the overall financial benefit in terms of long term health care  |
| The Nous Group              | 19/05/2009        | Developing a collaborative, collegiate SES culture   | C   | Developing an understanding of and improving culture and SES engagement through training and staff surveys   | To design and deliver leadership development for SES staff   |
| The University of Melbourne | 7/04/2008         | ARP project 0707 The Development of a veteran profile/s using the Household, income and Labour dynamics in Australia (HILDA) dataset   | C   | Data analysis of DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies   | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support the physical health needs of DVA clients through social welfare research through a systematic data linkage analysis of DVA data. |



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|--|-------------------|--|---|---|---|
| The University of Melbourne  | 9/10/2008         | Australian Peacekeepers: the long term effects on mental health status, health service use and quality of life | C   | Health research regarding DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies   | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support the physical and mental health needs of Australian peacekeepers through a longitudinal analysis.                                      |
| The University Of Queensland (Centre for Military and Veterans Health) | 30/10/2008        | Needs of Spouse Carers of WWII Veterans  | C   | Health research regarding DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies   | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support the physical and mental health needs of spouse carers of WWII veterans.   |
| The University of Queensland   | 9/02/2009         | Operation Life Scoping Project pilot for on-line counselling and suicide prevention packages.                  | B   | To identify existing Australian and international models to deliver online counselling, suicide awareness and prevention resources and tools that may be suitable for the veteran community | To inform the development of online options for Operation <i>Life</i> , a framework for action to prevent suicide and promote mental health and resilience across the veteran community     |
| The University of Queensland   | 20/05/2009        | A Temporal analysis of the healthy soldier effect  | C   | Health research regarding DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies   | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support the physical and mental health needs of veterans and ADF members through a systematic data linkage analysis of DVA and national data. |

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|------------------------------------|-------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Thomson Goodall Associates Pty Ltd | 30/06/2008        | Applied Research Program - Consultancy services to undertake a research project on Veterans at Risk | B   | Provide DVA with an update of the 1998 'Veterans at Risk' project and recommend future directions for DVA in relation to homelessness issues  | Assist to inform DVA with policy development in relation to housing and support for homeless veterans  |
| Uniquet Pty Ltd                    | 19/06/2009        | To conduct the Timor-Leste Family Study under the Family Study Program                              | C   | On 16 August 2007, the Australian Government announced \$13.5 million in funding to DVA to undertake family studies into the health and welfare of the families of veterans and defence force personnel. DVA has established the Family Study Program to administer the studies | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support the physical and mental health needs of veterans and ADF members and their families through transition polices and services.                         |
| University of Tasmania             | 18/02/2008        | 0703 – Survey for the Tasmanian Private Hospitals electronic discharge summary rollout              | C   | Health research regarding DVA client groups with implications for DVA programs and policies   | To inform DVA of improvements that can better support the physical and mental health needs of DVA clients regarding hospital services through a systematic data linkage analysis of DVA and national data. |
| Wendy Allan Consulting             | 28/04/2008        | Preparation of 3 reports - change management advice   | A   | Independent expertise required to develop proposals for structural changes to the Compliance area to meet a new business model and revised budgets.   | To inform the Executive of structural options and appropriate tasking of the Compliance area necessary in implementing a changed business model and meeting budget requirements.                           |

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|--|-------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Wendy Allan Consulting   | 28/04/2008        | Development of a proposal for the Restructure of the Investigation practice group   | A   | Independent expertise required to develop proposals for structural changes to the Compliance area to meet a new business model and revised budgets.  | To inform the Executive of structural options and appropriate tasking of the Compliance area necessary in implementing a changed business model and meeting budget requirements. |
| Western Australian Primary Care Network Inc.                     | 1/02/2008         | Develop strategies to raise awareness of mental issues  | B   | Part of key focus of the 2006-07 Budget Measure: <i>Improving Access to preventative and community-oriented mental health care for the veteran community, particularly younger veterans.</i> | To achieve a greater level of shared mental health care coordination and raise awareness of veterans mental health issues with general practitioners in Western Australia.       |
| Winch Computer Consulting Pty Ltd (Trading: Datasync Consulting) | 14/01/2008        | Provide expertise in setting up a Balanced Configuration Unit (BCU) IBM Database appliance & assistance and knowledge transfer on BCU | B   | Provide expertise in setting up a Balanced Configuration Unit (BCU) IBM Database appliance & assistance and knowledge transfer on BCU  | To enable the efficient utilisation of a new product in the DVA environment and provide training as part of a workforce strategy   |
| Workplace Business   | 5/03/2009         | VVCS internal HR investigation  | C   | Conduct an investigation into a potential code of conduct breach.  | To determine any requirement for disciplinary action   |
| Yellow Edge Pty Ltd  | 1/01/2009         | Design, development, delivery and evaluation of DVA Executive Leadership Development Program  | B   | Professional services required to design and deliver leadership development workshop   | To design and deliver leadership development workshop for executive level staff  |
| Zoo Communication  | 20/05/2008        | Graphic Design for the DHOAS marketing &  | B   | Maintain DHOAS website as part of the DHOAS Contract Requirement   | Maintain currency of website information   |

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|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|---|------------------|---------------------|
| s Pty Ltd         |                   | promotions     |   |                  |                     |

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**Question 15**

All programs

Topic: Advertising and marketing

Written question

**Senator BARNETT asked:**

- a) How much has the department spent on advertising and marketing since November 2007?
- b) Could the Department provide a complete list of current contracts. Please indicate the rationale for each service provided and its intended use.

**Answer**

- a) Nil.
- b) The Department has no current contracts.

**Question 16** *[original version]*

All programs

Topic: Reviews

Written question

**Senator BARNETT asked:**

- a) How many Reviews are currently being undertaken in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio/agency?
- b) When will each of these reviews be concluded?
- c) Which reviews have been completed since Budget Estimates?
- d) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
- e) What is the total number of Reviews *both completed and ongoing* in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency since November 2007?
- f) What is the estimated cost of these Reviews?
- g) What further reviews are planned for 2009-10 FY?

**Answer**

See also answer to Question 10, which addresses the issue of reports commissioned by Government.

- a) Four Government Commissioned reviews are currently being undertaken in the portfolio.
- b) Expected completion dates for these Reviews are as follows:

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| <b>Expected completion</b> | <b>Review</b>  |
|----------------------------|--|
| 2010                       | Review of Military Compensation Arrangements                                     |
| 2010                       | Reconsideration of Clarke recommendations not implemented by previous Government |
| 2010                       | Review of DVA Funded ESO Advocacy and Welfare Services                           |
| June 2010                  | Pharmaceutical Review  |

- c) No Government Commissioned reviews have been completed since Budget Estimates.
- d) The Government will respond to completed reviews in a timely and appropriate manner.
- e) Six reviews have been commissioned by the Government in the Veterans' Affairs portfolio since November 2007.
- f) The estimated total cost of these reviews is \$2,828,132
- g) The following Government Commissioned reviews are planned for the 2009-10 Financial year:
  - Review of post-traumatic stress disorder programs; and
  - Review of *Operation Life* Suicide Awareness and Prevention workshops.

**Question 16** [updated version]

All programs

Topic: Reviews

Written Question

**Senator BARNETT asked:**

- h) How many Reviews are currently being undertaken in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio/agency?
- i) When will each of these reviews be concluded?
- j) Which reviews have been completed since Budget Estimates?
- k) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
- l) What is the total number of Reviews *both completed and ongoing* in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency since November 2007?

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- m) What is the estimated cost of these Reviews?
- n) What further reviews are planned for 2009-10 FY?

**Answer**

See also answer to Question 10, which addresses the issue of reports commissioned by Government.

- h) Three Government Commissioned reviews are currently being undertaken in the portfolio.
- i) Expected completion dates for these Reviews are as follows:

| <b>Expected completion</b> | <b>Review</b>  |
|----------------------------|--|
| 2010                       | Review of Military Compensation Arrangements           |
| December 2010              | Review of DVA Funded ESO Advocacy and Welfare Services |
| June 2010                  | Pharmaceutical Review                                  |

- j) One Government Commissioned review has been completed since Budget Estimates—Reconsideration of the Clarke Recommendations not implemented by the previous Government.
- k) The Minister issued a media release providing details of the Government's response to each of the 45 revisited recommendations made in the review on 14 May 2010.
- l) Five reviews have been commissioned by the Government in the Veterans' Affairs portfolio since November 2007.
- m) The estimated total cost of the reviews is \$2,828,132
- n) The following Government Commissioned reviews are planned for the 2009-10 Financial year:
  - Review of post-traumatic stress disorder programs; and
  - Review of *Operation Life* Suicide Awareness and Prevention workshops.

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**Question 17**

All programs

Topic: Community Cabinet

Written question

**Senator BARNETT asked:**

- a) What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held since Budget Estimates?
- b) How many Ministerial Staff and Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Cabinet meetings?
- c) What was the total cost of the travel?
- d) What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office?

**Answer**

- a) In relation to travel undertaken by the Minister for Veterans' Affairs the report, *Parliamentarians' travel costs paid for by the Department of Finance and Deregulation*, is tabled biannually and that it gives details of the dates and purpose of the travel, the countries of destination and the costs of visits. Further information on ministerial visits is also available on ministerial web sites and in media releases and media reports.
- b) On two separate occasions, the Minister was accompanied by one Departmental officer.
- c and d)

The total cost of travel was approximately \$2185.23. This is only an estimates as not all invoices for travelling costs have been received by the Department at this time. This excludes Ministers travel expenses – refer to answer (a).

**Question 18**

All programs

Topic: Freedom of Information

Written question

**Senator BARNETT asked:**

- a) Has the Department/Agency received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests?
- b) How many FOI requests has the Department received?
- c) How many have been granted or denied?
- d) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?



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**Answer**

- a) The Department responds to FOI requests in accordance with the provisions of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and Guidelines issued by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.
- b) From 1 July 2006 to 1 February 2010, the Department had received a total of 22,241 FOI requests. The breakdown of requests received by year during that period is as follows:

| Year     | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2008/09 | 2009/2010<br>(to 1 Feb) | Total  |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|-------------------------|--------|
| Received | 7,150   | 6,491   | 5,944   | 2,656                   | 22,241 |

c)

| Year  | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2008/09 | 2009/2010<br>(to 1 Feb) | Total  |
|---|---------|---------|---------|-------------------------|--------|
| Granted in full   | 6,729   | 5,834   | 5,223   | 2,744                   | 20,530 |
| Granted in part   | 56      | 57      | 97      | 19                      | 229    |
| Access refused  | 52      | 81      | 190     | 4                       | 327    |
| Other (i.e. transferred to another Department or application withdrawn) | 368     | 437     | 466     | 469                     | 1740   |

*Note that any difference between the amount of requests received during a financial year and those finalised in the same period is attributable to applications that remained outstanding at the end of the financial year.*

d) Nil.

**Question 19**

Program 1.2

Topic: Compensation—£20 Million lump sum

Hansard, page 97

**Senator XENOPHON asked:**

So you are not aware of any consideration of some of the 20 million lump sum being used for compensation.

**Mr Campbell**—No.

**Senator XENOPHON**—Are you able to take on notice whether that was ever considered by the department back in the early 1990's. I appreciate that might not be within your knowledge.

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**Mr Campbell**—I would always accept a question on notice, but I suspect that the answer will be that we do not know. But I will take it on notice.

### Answer

The Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism has advised that the UK Government's £20 million payment was made in response to the then Australian Government's representations for a substantial contribution to the over \$100 million cost of rehabilitating the nuclear test sites. This claim followed the recommendation of the Royal Commission into British Nuclear Tests. The Royal Commission recommended a full clean-up of the test sites with the United Kingdom to cover the costs. The payment, in its entirety, was intended for, and committed to, the Maralinga site clean up. The then Department of Resources and Energy had prime responsibility for this matter in the early 1990s. No part of this payment was directed to the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Specific questions about this arrangement should be directed to the Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism.

### Question 20

Program 1.2

Topic: UK Class Action, lump sum compensation

Hansard, page 97

### **Senator XENOPHON asked:**

I have been told that Australian veterans that were at the British atomic tests currently only have one avenue of seeking compensation in terms of lump sum compensation, and that is to join a UK class action against the British Ministry of Defence. I think that their time limit for doing this is May and that there is currently an appeal before the High Court about an extension of time issue. Is your department aware of that particular case in the UK—the class action on behalf of British veterans that Australians may be able to join? Is there any proposal by the department of the government to give veterans support to assist with this?

**Mr Campbell** — Yes, I am aware of the court action that is proceeding in the UK. I am not in any way across the fine grain of detail of it and, no, I am not aware of any proposal for consideration of giving financial assistance.

**Senator XENOPHON** — Perhaps I could ask Senator Stephens to put on notice whether the minister has considered any requests for assistance or is considering providing assistance to veterans to join the action.

**Senator STEPHENS** — I am happy to take the question on notice.

### Answer

It is not correct to say that the only avenue for Australian participants to access compensation is through a class action against the UK Government. Australian British Nuclear Test participants, including ex-defence force members, civilians and other Commonwealth employees all have access to statutory compensation, either under the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988* (SRCA) or the civilian SRCA-like administrative scheme, as relevant, to claim compensation

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for conditions that they consider were caused by exposure to ionising radiation. In addition, all Australian British Nuclear Test participants have access to a non-liability health care scheme administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs which covers the cost of testing and treatment for all cancers, irrespective of cause.

The responsibility for common law claims relating to the British Nuclear Tests rests with the Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism. There is no proposal by the Department of Veterans' Affairs to support, financially or otherwise, the Australians seeking to join the UK class action. The Department and the Minister for Veterans' Affairs neither encourages nor discourages participants from undertaking legal action.

### **Question 21**

Program 1.2

Topic: Compensation Schemes

Hansard, pages 97 and 98)

#### **Senator XENOPHON asked:**

Finally, both to the government and to Mr Campbell: my understanding is that there are statutory compensation schemes in terms of lump sum compensation for veterans of atomic tests in France and the United States. Whether you were upwind or downwind, the compensation, in addition to medical benefits is \$50,000 and \$75,000. In Russia and even in China there is compensation. Are you aware of the framework of any of those schemes, particularly in the United States and France? Was any consideration given to the operation of those schemes in an Australian context? Again, you may wish to take that on notice.

**Mr Campbell** — I will take it on notice, but I would make two observations. One is that, if compensation does flow, there has to be a link between the event and the outcome. Secondly, I think it is very difficult to pull out one example of how a country operates all its compensation systems. That said, we will take that on notice.

**Senator XENOPHON** — On notice, could you provide me with some more information in relation to that?

**Mr Campbell** — We certainly will provide you with briefing notes on the health studies that have been done and the effects, because the point I have been making about exposure and extent of exposure is quite important.

### **Answer**

A response to the questions raised in respect of overseas compensation available to nuclear test participants is provided at Part 1, whilst briefing notes relating to the health studies are provided at Part 2.

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## **Part 1—Overseas Compensation Available to Nuclear Test Participants**

### Background

The Department is aware of compensation schemes of other countries for their nuclear test participants.

Caution must be exercised in comparing schemes between countries given that the schemes have been developed in the unique social, historical, economic, health and legislative contexts of each country. Furthermore, the eligibility rules of each scheme, for example liability requirements, onus and standards of proof, conditions covered and definitions of participants, differ significantly between various schemes.

### France

France has recently passed legislation to enable statutory compensation to military and civilian personnel who have suffered radiation related illnesses, as identified by the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) as a result of the French nuclear tests conducted between 1960 and 1996. Information available to the Department indicates that claims are to be determined on a case by case basis by a committee. A total amount of compensation has been earmarked, although how this will be apportioned amongst claimants is not totally clear.

### United States of America

The US Department of Veterans' Affairs provides compensation on a presumptive basis for a statutory list of cancers to 'radiation exposed veterans' or their survivors, who participated in nuclear tests by the U.S. or its allies, who served with the U.S. occupation forces in Hiroshima or Nagasaki, Japan, between August 1945 and July 1946, or who were exposed to ionising radiation while a prisoner of war in Japan, provided the condition manifests within certain time periods. In addition to the presumptive conditions, a claim for compensation may be made under a statutory scheme on the basis of proving causation of conditions and exposure to radiation.

Compensation is also payable through the US Department of Justice under the 1990 Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) to individuals who have developed lung or kidney diseases or one of 19 types of cancer, and were living in areas of Nevada, Arizona or Utah downwind of nuclear test sites (eligible for a \$50,000 payment) or were on-site nuclear test participants (eligible for a \$75,000 payment). The statutory criteria do not require claimants to establish causation.

Rather, a claimant qualifies for an award by establishing the diagnosis of a listed compensable disease after working or residing in a designated location for a specific period of time.

### China and Russia

Comprehensive details of the various benefits available to nuclear test participants in countries such as Russia and China are not available and have been sourced from unsubstantiated information.

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However, the little evidence available on benefits provided to Russian nuclear test participants indicates that the Russian Government passed a series of decrees in 2004 to provide healthcare and a small monthly payment to test participants, however there is no blanket compensation scheme.

Further reports claim that the government of Kazakhstan, home to the former Soviet test site of Semipalatinsk, has been paying compensation to the local population there whilst another report indicates that compensation was only offered to veterans who were part of the Totsk test, however, civilians affected by the tests were excluded.

There is little evidence available regarding compensation or health care provided by China, however, media reports indicate that, in 2008, China began making payments or 'subsidies' to personnel involved in nuclear tests as part of its effort to improve benefits for former military veterans. It is unclear what prompted China's decision to make these payments or whether the payments cover medical costs for civilian residents and military personnel possibly affected by the tests.

### Australia

Australia provides statutory and administrative schemes of compensation for conditions accepted as caused by ionising radiation for former Australian Defence Force members (ADF), other Commonwealth employees and civilians involved in the British Nuclear Test (BNT) program in Australia. Australia also provides a non-liability (i.e. presumptive) health care scheme for all Australian British Nuclear Test participants that covers the cost of all testing and treatment for cancers irrespective of cause. This health care scheme does not require proof of exposure to ionising radiation but a person must meet the definition of a participant.

The non-liability health care scheme was a direct result of the Government's commitment to respond positively to the results of the 2006 *Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests in Australia Mortality and Cancer Incidence and Dosimetry Studies*, which are summarised below.

On 11 May 2010 the Minister announced that the Government had accepted the Clarke recommendation to provide Defence Force personnel who participated in the BNT program with access to compensation under the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (VEA) for any conditions related to their BNT service. Defence Force members who participated in the BNT program will be eligible to claim for the disability pension and health care. Their partners may also be eligible to claim war widow/widower's pension.

Access to these VEA benefits will be available from July 2010, subject to the passage of legislative change.

## **Part 2—Briefing notes on Australian participants in British Nuclear Tests in Australia 2006 Studies**

### Background

- In July 1999, the then Minister for Veterans' Affairs, the Hon Bruce Scott MP, announced that a study of Australian participants in the British nuclear tests program conducted in Australia between 1952 and 1963 would be undertaken.

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- The *Mortality and Cancer Incidence Study* was undertaken by Adelaide University Department of Public Health. The *Dosimetry Study* was undertaken by the Dosimetry Subcommittee and Exposure Panel consisting of radiation safety consultants, academics and members of the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA).
- The studies were overseen by an independent Scientific Advisory Committee and a Consultative Forum of ex-service representatives and representatives from DVA, the Department of Defence, COMCARE and the Department of Industry, Science and Resources.
- The studies were completed in June 2006. The bulk of the seven years needed to complete the study was occupied by extensive archival work to compile a study roll of participants and to gather all available documents as to details of the conditions at the test sites.
- The total cost of the studies was estimated to be approximately \$2 million.
- The reports of both studies can be accessed online on the Department's website at [http://www.dva.gov.au/health\\_and\\_wellbeing/research/Pages/health%20studies.aspx#nuctest](http://www.dva.gov.au/health_and_wellbeing/research/Pages/health%20studies.aspx#nuctest).

### *Australian Mortality and Cancer Incidence Study 2006*

- The *Mortality and Cancer Incidence Study* deals with the rates of mortality and cancer incidence amongst British nuclear test participants. The *Mortality Study* compared the number of deaths in test participants with the general population from the time of the tests to 2001; the *Cancer Incidence Study* compared the number of cases of cancer in test participants with that in the general population from 1982 to 2001.
- The study found that the overall death rate for nuclear test participants was similar to that of the general population.
- However, there was an increase in the rate of cancer (23 per cent) and cancer-related deaths (18 per cent) compared to the general population. In layman's terms, this increase equates to five more cancer deaths per year among nuclear test participants, compared to the general population.
- Cancer of the lip, oral cavity and pharynx (41 per cent), oesophageal cancer (48 per cent), colorectal cancer (16 per cent), lung cancer (28 per cent), melanoma (40 per cent), prostate cancer (22 per cent), leukaemia (43 per cent) and radiogenic cancers (a combined group made up of thyroid, stomach, colon, liver, lung, bladder, non-CLL leukaemia and non-melanoma skin cancer – 19 per cent), were significantly elevated compared to the general population. Other cancers observed were not significantly different to those expected within the general population.
- Although the overall incidence of cancer amongst the test participants was higher than expected, no correlation was found between cancer incidence and estimated radiation dose.
- In September 2008, the findings of the *Mortality and Cancer Incidence Study* were published in an international peer reviewed journal, *Occupational and Environmental Medicine*.

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*Dosimetry Study 2006*

- The *Dosimetry Study* attempted to reconstruct the dose of radiation received by the nuclear test participants, based on established principles of nuclear physics and job descriptions extracted from a range of source documents.
- As part of the study, the radiation exposures of 10,983 participants were estimated. Both internal and external exposure pathways were considered.
- The report concluded that 79 per cent of the participants received a dose of radiation equivalent to the recommended annual dose limit for members of the Australian public. Only four per cent of test participants were estimated to have received doses greater than the internationally recommended annual limit for radiation exposure workers.
- While particular individuals may have been exposed to radiation levels higher than the group estimations, the study was concerned with average group levels of exposure.
- No association was found between the number of cancers observed amongst test participants and their estimated dose of radiation.
- The *Dosimetry Study* was previously internationally peer reviewed by three experts at the request of the Department and was considered to be sound.
- In September 2009, a summary of the findings of the *Dosimetry Study* was published in an international peer reviewed journal, *Radiation Protection Dosimetry*.

*Government response*

- Despite having found no association between cancer incidence and estimated radiation exposure, the Government in 2006 introduced a scheme to provide test participants with non-liability health care testing and treatment (White Card) for all cancers.
- Eligible participants under the *Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests (Treatment) Act 2006* are entitled to non-liability testing and treatment of any malignant cancer. This coverage is open to any member of the ADF, Commonwealth employees, Commonwealth contractor or member of the Commonwealth Police, Australian Federal Police or Australian Protective Services who satisfies the definition of an Australian participant in the British nuclear tests.
- On 11 May 2010 the Minister announced that the Government had accepted the Clarke recommendation to provide Defence Force personnel who participated in the BNT program with access to compensation under the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (VEA) for any conditions related to their BNT service. Defence Force members who participated in the BNT program will be eligible to claim for the disability pension and health care. Their partners may also be eligible to claim war widow/widower's pension.
- Access to these VEA benefits will be available from July 2010, subject to the passage of legislative change.

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**Question 22**

Program 1.2

Topic: Indexation for Military Superannuation Pension

Written question

**Senator XENOPHON asked:**

- a) The recent Matthews review into pensions in Australia recommended that the CPI remain the basis of indexation for military superannuation pensions, even though this means that military pensions are indexed at a lower rate than the aged pension, disadvantaging ex-servicemen and women. What is the DVA's position on this recommendation?
- b) Given that the CPI is no longer considered accurate for indexing other pension schemes, can the DVA explain why military superannuation pensions are still using this method?

**Answer**

a) and b)

These are matters of Government policy. The Department of Veterans' Affairs has no position on these issues. In any event under the Administrative Arrangement Orders they are matters for the Departments of Defence and Finance and Deregulation to consider.

**Question 23**

Program 1.1

Topic: Veterans' Income Support and Allowances—Pension Rate Disparity

Written question

**Senator KROGER asked:**

- a) How many veterans paid a disability pension did not receive indexation received by other disability pensions? What type of pension do these pensioners receive?
- b) On what basis were these pensioners denied an increase?

**Answer**

a) and b)

All DVA pensions are indexed in March and September of every year, as are Centrelink payments.

DVA pensions are indexed by factors that measure the increase in the Consumer Price Index, or the Pensioners & Beneficiary Living Cost Index and are benchmarked to a percentage of male weekly wages.

It is important to note the distinction between DVA Disability Pension and Disability Support Pension paid by Centrelink.



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Disability Pension paid by DVA is a compensation payment for war or service related injury or disease. It is not an income support payment, is not income or assets tested and is not taxable income.

In contrast, Disability Support Pension paid by Centrelink is an income support payment paid to those who are unable to work because of disability. It is paid at the same rate and is subject to the same income and assets test as the Age Pension and the Service Pension.

A person with a DVA Disability Pension who meets the income and assets tests may also be entitled to be paid either a Service Pension from DVA or a Disability Support Pension or Age Pension by Centrelink.

As at January 2010, 5,456 T&PI pensioners did not receive any income support payment from DVA or Centrelink. There are 1,843 single T&PI pensioners who receive a part Service Pension, part Age Pension or part Disability Support Pension. Another 7,742 partnered T&PI pensioners receive a part Service Pension, part Age Pension or part Disability Support Pension. The maximum rate Service Pension, maximum rate Age Pension or maximum rate Disability Support Pension is paid to 5,212 single T&PI pensioners and 9,246 partnered T&PI pensioners.

The Secure and Sustainable pension reforms addressed the adequacy of the Australian income support system. It therefore did not examine the DVA Disability Pension.

The cost to pass on the same level of increase as was made to the single Service Pension to DVA Disability Pensions would be \$587.3 million over 4 years. Those DVA Disability Pensioners who receive a single rate income support payment have already received the increase.

### **Question 24**

Program 1.1

Topic: Veterans' Income Support and Allowances – Pension Rate Disparity

Written question

#### **Senator KROGER asked:**

Other disability pensioners received an increase, but not some of our T&PI community. I understand these increases were made to compensate for a rising cost of living. How much would it cost to give all those who missed out the same pension increase in line with what they were verbally promised?

### **Answer**

This question is answered in the response to Question 23.

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**Question 25**

Program 1.1

Topic: Veterans' Income Support and Allowances–Pension Rate Disparity

Written question

**Senator KROGER asked:**

- a) ESOs regularly make claims for increases in indexation and pension base rates to government. Has the Department prepared advice for the Minister on specific pension increase proposals?
- b) I understand that some people who are on a service pension AND receive the special rate of T&PI were told that they would receive an increase in their service pension under last year's indexation changes. How many special rate pensioners do not receive a service pension? How many receive only a part service pension? How many receive a maximum rate service pension? How can it be said that eligible disability pensioners who receive a service pension are entitled to an increase, but disability pensioners who do not receive a service pension are not eligible for an increase?

**Answer**

- a) Yes.
- b) This question is answered in the response to Question 23.

**Question 26**

Program 1.1

Topic: Impact of the ETS on Veterans and Pensioners

Written question

**Senator KROGER asked:**

- a) Would the Department outline the compensation arrangements which apply to all DVA clients under the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme?
- b) Can the Department guarantee pensioners that they will not be worse off under the scheme?
- c) Will DVA pensioners be absolutely, totally compensated for any increase in the cost of living?
- d) Can the Department guarantee that no veteran will be worse off under the Government's Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme?
- e) Electricity prices may rise by up to 60 per cent under the ETS, will electricity price rises be fully compensated under the ETS?

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### **Answer**

- a) The Government has announced that it will not introduce the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) until after the end of the current commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol and only when there is greater clarity on the actions of other major economies including the US, China and India. This means the Government will not move to legislate the CPRS before the end of 2012.
- b) Refer to response for (a).
- c) Refer to response for (a).
- d) Refer to response for (a).
- e) Refer to response for (a).

### **Question 27**

Outcome 1: Program 1.1

Topic: Impact of the ETS on Veterans and Pensioners

Written question

#### **Senator KROGER asked:**

- a) Members of our veteran community are involved in volunteer work, what consideration has the government given to the high level of volunteer work in the veteran community and the cost burden of an ETS?
- b) Will veterans involved in volunteer work have the cost of their expenses such as petrol fully compensated by the ETS?

### **Answer**

- a) The Government has announced that it will not introduce the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) until after the end of the current commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol and only when there is greater clarity on the actions of other major economies including the US, China and India. This means the Government will not move to legislate the CPRS before the end of 2012.
- b) Refer to response for (a).

### **Question 28**

Program 1.2

Topic: Rehabilitation Compensation Acts Payment–Income Support and Compensation

Written question

#### **Senator KROGER asked:**

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- a) How much would it cost to change the classification of the service of nuclear testing veterans to “non-warlike hazardous” as recommended by the Clarke Review?
- b) What impact would this change have for entitlements to the Gold Card and what is the component of the Gold Card cost of reclassification of service?

### **Answer**

- a) The total cost of implementing the effect of the Clarke recommendation is estimated at \$24.2 million over four years.
- b) Included in this figure is an estimated Gold Card cost of \$17.4 million which would be offset by existing white card costs and costs relating to the Medicare Benefits Scheme and Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

### **Question 29**

Program 1.2

Topic: Rehabilitation Compensation Acts Payment–Income Support and Compensation

Written question

### **Senator KROGER asked:**

Has the Department ever had any involvement with Professor Bruce Armstrong?

- a) Has Professor Armstrong had any involvement in further analysis of the Cancer and Mortality Study conducted for nuclear testing victims?
- b) What is that involvement?
- c) Has the Minister ever requested contact with Professor Armstrong through the Department? If so, when?

### **Answer**

Professor Bruce Armstrong was the Chair of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) for the 2006 studies of Australian participants in the British nuclear tests in Australia *Dosimetry* and *Mortality and Cancer Incidence*. The SAC had the role of reviewing and advising on the methodology of the studies and supervised the reports' preparation.

a) and b)

Since the conclusion of the studies, Professor Bruce Armstrong has not been involved in further analysis of the *Mortality and Cancer Incidence* study.

- c) On 22 July 2008 Minister Griffin met with Professor Armstrong to discuss the 2006 studies.

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**Question 30**

Outcome 2: Health

Topic: Health e-Health and “health identifiers”

Written question

**Senator KROGER asked:**

- a) Will the Department guarantee privacy of records held by DVA during the roll out of Health Identifier numbers? What safeguards are being put in place to ensure this?
- b) Will the Department further guarantee that this number will in no way replace existing DVA numbers?

**Answers**

- a) The Health Identifiers (HI) Service will be managed by Medicare Australia (the service operator) and will provide the same level of protection to veterans' and war widows' personal information as required by the HI legislation.

DVA will only disclose to the service operator ‘identifying information’, as defined under the *Health Identifiers Bill 2010* (i.e., the DVA file number, name, date of birth, sex, address of healthcare recipients), in order for the service operator to correctly identify an individual and to assign a unique Individual Health Identifier (IHI). The service operator will not have access to an individual's personal information other than the indentifying information provided for assignment of an IHI. This arrangement ensures that personal information of DVA clients is protected from unauthorised access.

The implementation of the IHI will have no bearing on the individual records currently managed by DVA. Personal information, including health information, is protected by the *Privacy Act 1988* and disclosure is limited to the circumstances authorised under that Act.

- b) The DVA File Number identifies DVA beneficiaries and, therefore, has a different purpose to that of the IHI. The Department can guarantee that the IHI will not replace existing DVA File Numbers, which will continue to be the means of identifying veterans and war widows with DVA entitlements.

**Question 31**

Program 2.2

Topic: Veterans' Hospital Services – Cost of healthcare and the ETS

Written question

**Senator KROGER asked:**

- a) In answers to questions from the last Estimates, DVA indicated that DVA “negotiates annual indexation adjustments with each state and territory”. Will the next round of adjustments take into consideration the potential cost increase of the ETS?

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- b) Has the Department undertaken any modelling into what the cost of the ETS may be on all services provided by the Department? What will this cost be? How will the Department offset these costs?

### **Answer**

- a) The Government has announced that it will not introduce the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) until after the end of the current commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol and only when there is greater clarity on the actions of other major economies including the US, China and India. This means the Government will not move to legislate the CPRS before the end of 2012.
- b) Refer to response for (a).

### **Question 32**

Program 2.1

Topic: Veterans' Community Care and Support Home and Community Care

Written question

### **Senator KROGER asked:**

Will costs for HaCC provided services increase under the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme?

- a) What compensation arrangements are in place for this programme?
- b) In particular, what will the impact of the increased cost of petrol be on service delivery to veterans in regional Australia?

### **Answer**

- c) The Government has announced that it will not introduce the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) until after the end of the current commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol and only when there is greater clarity on the actions of other major economies including the US, China and India. This means the Government will not move to legislate the CPRS before the end of 2012.
- d) Refer to response for (a).

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**Question 33**

Program 2.5

Topic: Veterans' Counselling and other Health Services (Outcome 2)

Written question

**Senator KROGER asked:**

- a) We have seen much in the media recently about mental health concerns amongst the younger veteran community, particularly out of Iraq, Afghanistan and Timor. What is the Department doing to engage with these younger veterans?
- b) How much is it spending on counselling for younger veterans?
- c) Does the department make counselling available for parents of younger veterans who do not have partners?
- d) Are parents and other siblings encouraged to contact VVCS if they are concerned about a family member recently returned from duty? Could this be investigated?

**Answer**

- a) VVCS has an Agreement for Services with the Department of Defence to provide counselling services and group programs to ADF personnel who are referred by Defence Medical Officers. VVCS employs an ADF Liaison Officer whose responsibility is to build linkages between ADF and VVCS to facilitate early intervention with younger veterans. This includes:
  - VVCS counselling and group programs are available to all younger veterans and their partners and dependant children
  - VVCS provides the Stepping Out Program to Defence personnel, and their partners, in the process of transitioning from Defence. The Stepping Out Program is advertised several times a year in Defence Family Matters and all three Service Newspapers.
  - VVCS staff attend each Defence Transition Seminar to deliver a standard presentation on services available including the Stepping Out Program. They also disseminate brochures, fact sheets and information about how to contact VVCS.
  - VVCS has presented at Defence Reintegration Briefing seminars in Darwin, Townsville and Brisbane for ADF members returning from Afghanistan.
  - VVCS centres have developed strong relationships with Defence Area Health Services, Psychology Corps and Chaplaincy in all regions. VVCS responds to invitations to attend Defence service information presentations including DCO Family Fun days, and Defence health Expos.
  - Veterans Line, the after hours telephone crisis counselling service is available to all younger veterans and their partners. The Defence All - hours Support Line is a 24-hour mental health support and triage telephone service available to all

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Defence personnel, which where appropriate, refers or recommends younger veterans and their family members to VVCS. VVCS can offer after-hours face to face counselling by appointment.

- VVCS has participated in the Transition Mental Health and Family Collaborative pilot in Townsville in 2009, with the aim of enhancing collaborative service provision to all medically discharging members and their families.
- b) Total cost to the Department for the provision of counselling services for younger veterans during 2009 totalled \$3.028 million
- c) VVCS responds to enquiries from parents of younger veterans by offering a limited number of sessions of counselling followed by referral to more appropriate service providers. With the member's permission, parents are invited to be involved in planning treatment for the younger veteran.
- d) At Defence Decompression/Reintegration Seminars VVCS provides information on potential adjustment issues that may arise for the veteran and their family upon return to Australia. Family members are invited to contact VVCS if they have concerns about the returned veteran.

### **Question 34**

Program 2.5

Topic: Veterans' Counselling and other Health Services

Written question

#### **Senator KROGER asked:**

Can the department outline costs for DCO and VVCS counselling services? Particularly, can the Department please provide:

- a) Numbers of contacts from veterans of recent conflicts?
- b) Amount spent on 'reach out' programmes to younger veterans (i.e. through stepping out)

#### **Answer**

- a) The Defence Community Organisation (DCO) operates within the Department of Defence portfolio, therefore, we are unable to provide information about their counselling services.

In VVCS the term 'contact' has a specific meaning, that is, any person who contacts VVCS to seek services prior to establishing if they are eligible to receive a service. During 2009 VVCS centres provided intake services to 2,122 veterans of recent conflicts. VVCS subsequently provided 9,853 counselling sessions to 1,358 veterans from recent conflicts. In addition, 455 current serving members received 2,916 counselling sessions through the Fee for Service Agreement with the Department of Defence. After hours the Veterans Line



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service delivered an additional 693 telephone counselling session to veterans of recent conflicts.

As many veterans of recent conflicts (Iraq, Afghanistan and Timor) have been engaged in multiple deployments VVCS uses age ranges to report service usage activity rather than by conflict zone.

- b) VVCS provides a range of mental health group programmes that are available to all veterans including Younger Veterans. The Stepping Out Program was developed specifically to assist younger veterans in their transition from the ADF to civilian life and provide a pathway to improve access to VVCS services in the future. Total expenditure for the Stepping Out Program for the financial year 2008-2009 was \$106,597.95 and to date is \$69,521.35 for the current financial year.

### **Question 35**

Program 2.5

Topic: Veterans' Counselling and other Health Services

Written question

#### **Senator KROGER asked:**

- a) What current programmes are operating on-base to assist servicemen and their families in transition?
- b) What interaction does VVCS have with on-base services?

### **Answer**

#### **a) On-Base presence**

DVA currently has staff working full-time at Lavarak Barracks (Townsville) and Enoggera Barracks (Brisbane). These staff provide both Transition Management Service and general claims advice. They also interact with the Defence Transition cell and the Australian Defence Force (ADF) Rehabilitation programme to facilitate a seamless process during transition. A visiting service is provided to other bases around the country. The visits are scheduled according to need.

#### **Transition Management Service (TMS)**

A TMS is currently available to assist ADF members with transition from military service to civilian life. This service is provided by DVA under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Department of Defence to support members being discharged on invalidity grounds. Defence have advised they will be taking responsibility for TMS service and will not be requiring this service from DVA after 30 June 2010.

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ADF members who are in the process of being discharged on invalidity grounds are offered advice and support through this optional service. The support provided by the TMS to members discharging on invalidity grounds includes assistance with:

- civilian employment options;
- compensation;
- superannuation;
- financial planning;
- transition adjustment issues; and
- health insurance and community support arrangements.

### **Group Presentations delivered by DVA:**

- Transition Seminars
- Pre-deployment seminars
- Post deployment seminars
- Induction seminars
- Recruit courses
- Presentations to units at the request of the CO

### **Regional Stakeholder Forums**

An initiative associated with IPSS involving regular meetings between Defence and DVA stakeholders.

### **Services provided by Defence**

Defence also has programs operating on base to assist transitioning members. Details of these programs would be available from Defence.

- b) VVCS attends Regional Mental Health Team meetings, and has relationships with ADF Area Health Services, Psychology Corps, Chaplaincy, ADF Rehabilitation Program Coordinators and Defence Transition Support Services on Defence bases. VVCS responds to invitations to deliver information about VVCS services to Defence service information forums including Defence Communities Organisation Family Fun days, and Defence Health Expos.

### **Question 36**

Program 2.5

Topic: Veterans' Counselling and other Health Services

Written question

### **Senator KROGER asked:**

- a) Have these matters been considered by the Review of Military Rehabilitation which is currently underway?
- b) On this topic, has the Minister received a request to extend the time for the review beyond 31 March 2010?

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c) Until what date has the request been made?

**Answer**

- a) Services provided by Defence Communities Organisation and VVCS to younger veterans and their families are not within the Terms of Reference for the Review. The Review is considering the operation of the MRCA including rehabilitation and medical treatment provided to younger veterans, a compassionate payment scheme for families of Australian Defence Force members, and the level of medical support provided to members with peacetime service only.
- b) The Review has many significant and complex issues under consideration. The Minister and Steering Committee have, therefore, agreed that the Review will continue beyond 31 March 2010.
- c) No fixed date has been set for delivery of the Report.

**Question 37**

Outcome 1 and 3, programs 1.4, 3.1 and 3.2

Topic: Grants

Written question

**Senator BARNETT asked:**

These are subject to a continuing order of the Senate. Examine what has been provided and ask about non-answers, or potentially controversial grants.

Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?

**Answer**

The Department administers four Grants Programs:

1. Building Excellence in Support and Training (BEST);
2. Veteran and Community Grants (V&C);
3. Saluting their Service (STS); and
4. Overseas Memorial Restoration Grants.

The Commonwealth Grant Guidelines were formally published in July 2009 including the requirement that all grants are to be published on the departmental website within seven (7) days of signing the grant agreement.

The Department was compliant with regard to the Veteran and Community Grants, *Saluting Their Service* and Overseas Memorial Restoration Grants. However, the Department was not compliant with regard to all 2009-10 BEST Grants.

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In previous funding rounds the Department has waited until all BEST grant agreements have been signed and returned before publishing the entire list on the website. Unfortunately, because there were 282 grant applications in 2009-10, waiting until all grants documentation had been returned meant that the Department missed the seven-day deadline. Having realised that this approach will not enable future compliance, the Department now publishes the details of each grant as the relevant documentation is finalised.

### **Question 38**

Outcome 1 and 3, programs 1.4, 3.1 and 3.2

Topic: Discretionary grants

Written question

#### **Senator TROOD asked:**

Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants since November 2007? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.

### **Answer**

Response to this question is at separate **Attachment A**.

### **Question 39**

Outcome 3, program 3.1

Topic: War Memorials in Tasmania

Written question

#### **Senator JOHNSTON asked:**

Which war memorials in Tasmania have received funding in financial years 2007-08, 2008-09 and so far this financial year, under the Department's local memorials fund?

### **Answer**

| <b><i>Saluting Their Service</i> commemorative grants approved towards the cost of war memorials located in Tasmania during the 2007-08 financial year</b> |                              |   |                     |                          |                                   |
|--|------------------------------|---|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Program</b>   | <b>Recipient</b>             | <b>Purpose</b>  | <b>Value<br/>\$</b> | <b>Approval<br/>date</b> | <b>Grant Funding<br/>Location</b> |
| <i>Saluting<br/>Their<br/>Service</i>  | Scottsdale RSL<br>Sub-branch | Install a life size wood<br>sculpture of Simpson<br>and his Donkey at the<br>entrance of Scottsdale<br>Cenotaph Park. | 4,000               | 27-Feb-08                | SCOTTSDALE<br>TAS                 |

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| <b><i>Saluting Their Service</i> commemorative grants approved towards the cost of war memorials located in Tasmania during the 2007-08 financial year</b> |                            |   |                 |                      |                               |
|--|----------------------------|---|-----------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Program</b>   | <b>Recipient</b>           | <b>Purpose</b>  | <b>Value \$</b> | <b>Approval date</b> | <b>Grant Funding Location</b> |
| <i>Saluting Their Service</i>  | Lindisfarne RSL Sub-branch | Install 16 plaques at Anzac Park, Lindisfarne, dedicated to veterans from the district who lost their lives while serving in Vietnam. | 4,000           | 26-Jun-08            | LINDISFARNE<br>TAS            |
|  |                            | <b>Total</b>  | 8,000           |                      |                               |

| <b><i>Saluting Their Service</i> commemorative grants approved towards the cost of war memorials located in Tasmania during the 2008-09 financial year</b> |                                       |  |                 |                      |                               |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|-----------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Program</b>   | <b>Recipient</b>                      | <b>Purpose</b>   | <b>Value \$</b> | <b>Approval date</b> | <b>Grant Funding Location</b> |
| <i>Saluting Their Service</i>  | Break O'Day Council                   | Construct a memorial wall of honour to commemorate all veterans from the St Helens district who served in the First World War.           | 4,000           | 25-Sep-08            | ST HELENS<br>TAS              |
| <i>Saluting Their Service</i>  | Sorell RSL Sub-branch                 | Construct a war memorial at Dodges Ferry Primary School in Sorell dedicated to all wars and conflicts.                                   | 4,000           | 25-Nov-08            | SORELL<br>TAS                 |
| <i>Saluting Their Service</i>  | Mathinna Community and Landcare Group | Restore a 25 Pounder gun to be put on display at the Mathinna War Memorial.  | 2,857           | 05-Feb-09            | MATHINNA<br>TAS               |
| <i>Saluting Their Service</i>  | Northern Midlands Council, Longford   | Restore two First World War Minenwerfer guns and secure them to the Longford Cenotaph, and install an interpretive plaque explaining the | 4,000           | 09-Apr-09            | LONGFORD<br>TAS               |

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| <b><i>Saluting Their Service</i> commemorative grants approved towards the cost of war memorials located in Tasmania during the 2008-09 financial year</b> |  |   |                 |                      |                               |
|--|--|---|-----------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Program</b>   | <b>Recipient</b>   | <b>Purpose</b>  | <b>Value \$</b> | <b>Approval date</b> | <b>Grant Funding Location</b> |
|  |  | significance of the trophy guns.  |                 |                      |                               |
| <i>Saluting Their Service</i>  | Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia, Burnie & District Sub-branch | Install a Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Anzac Park in Somerset, dedicated to local veterans who served in the Vietnam War. | 4,000           | 28-Jun-09            | SOMERSET TAS                  |
|  |  | <b>Total</b>  | 18,857          |                      |                               |

| <b><i>Saluting Their Service</i> commemorative grants approved towards the cost of war memorials located in Tasmania during the period 1 July 2009 to 15 March 2010</b> |                         |  |       |           |                 |
|---|-------------------------|--|-------|-----------|-----------------|
| <i>Saluting Their Service</i>   | Dunalley RSL Sub-branch | Erect a war memorial in Dunalley dedicated to all wars and conflicts.                                    | 4,000 | 10-Nov-09 | DUNALLEY TAS    |
| <i>Saluting Their Service</i>   | Clarence City Council   | Install three plaques in Anzac Park in Lindisfarne to commemorate Naval service in the Second World War. | 3,000 | 10-Nov-09 | LINDISFARNE TAS |
|   |                         | <b>Total</b>   | 7,000 |           |                 |

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**Question 40**

Program 3.1

Topic: Commemorations AHS Centaur

Written question

**Senator KROGER asked:**

What is the division of responsibilities on this issue between the Commonwealth and the Queensland governments?

**Answer**

Commonwealth responsibility for the protection of the wreck lies with the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts. The Department of Defence would have an interest in the ship because of its service as a hospital ship and because of military casualties within the wreck.

The Queensland Government's interest would relate to the location of the wreck within State waters and their support of the search for the *Centaur*.

**Question 41**

Program 3.1

Topic: Commemorations AHS Centaur

Written question

**Senator KROGER asked:**

The site has been declared an Historical Shipwreck by the Environment Minister, what is being done towards the site's listing as a war grave?

**Answer**

The term 'war grave' is descriptive and confers no legal right or title.

Wartime shipwreck sites are often described as war graves. However, for the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC), which is responsible for commemoration of Commonwealth war dead of the two world wars, the term 'war grave' has a specific meaning and cannot be used other than for the official commemoration by interment of remains of our war dead in an established grave with a regulation headstone.

The CWGC commemorates those lost on the *Centaur* on the Sydney Memorial to the Missing within the CWGC Sydney War Cemetery.

In Australian waters, the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts is responsible for ensuring protection of vessels such as the *Centaur* through the declaration of protected zones under the *Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976*.

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**Question 42**

Program 3.1

Topic: Commemorations AHS Centaur

Written question

**Senator KROGER asked:**

Can the Department please confirm the penalties applicable for interference with a war grave?

**Answer**

There is no specific Commonwealth legislation in respect to deliberately interfering with or damaging an official war grave. Individuals prosecuted for such offences would be dealt with under the appropriate State or Territory laws.

**Question 43**

Program 3.1

Topic: Montevideo Maru

Written question

**Senator KROGER asked:**

- a) Is the Department engaged with Montevideo Maru Memorial Committee?
- b) How often has the Department met with the committee?

**Answer**

- a) Yes.
- b) The Department has been represented at two meetings between the Minister and members of the *Montevideo Maru* Memorial Committee. The Office of Australian War Graves (OAWG) has been requested by the Minister to investigate possible measures that could be used to protect the wreck, if and when it is located, from interference because of the casualties it contains. The OAWG is liaising with the Chair of a Sub-Committee of the *Montevideo Maru* Memorial Committee, and with the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts.



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**Question 44**

Program 3.1

Topic: Montevideo Maru

Written question

**Senator KROGER asked:**

The Minister's last press release on the issue was 1 July 2009. Have there been any developments since then?

**Answer**

Subsequent to the Press release of 1 July 2009, the \$7,200 grant to the RSL Angeles City Sub-Branch in the Philippines resulted in a plaque being added to the Hellships Memorial at Subic Bay and additional information panels regarding the story of the Hellships at the local museum.

The plaque to the Montevideo Maru and the Rakuyo Maru was unveiled at the 2009 Remembrance Day ceremony held at the Memorial.

**Question 45**

Program 3.1

Topic: Montevideo Maru

Written question

**Senator KROGER asked:**

Is the Government progressing towards a memorial to the ship here in Australia? If so, where?

**Answer**

Discussions about the construction of a memorial to commemorate those lost on the *Montevideo Maru* have taken place between the Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Mr Keith Jackson AM, Chairman, *Montevideo Maru* Memorial Committee. The option of constructing a memorial within the grounds of the Australian War Memorial has been discussed.

The Trust aims to raise money through corporate sponsorship, Government assistance and private funding.

The Department is currently assessing the details provided by the Trust and a brief with recommendations will be prepared for the Minister when the final assessment of the request has been completed.

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**Question 46**

**Australian War Memorial**

Topic: Corporate sponsorship

Written question

**Senator KROGER asked:**

Regarding the issues of corporate sponsorship at the Memorial:

- a) Has the Council received requests to sponsor other events?
- b) Can the Council provide a full list of sponsored projects at the Memorial?

**Answer**

- a) Other than the recently announced support of the 95<sup>th</sup> Gallipoli Anniversary touring VC exhibition by Mr Kerry Stokes and Channel 7, there have not been any new sponsorship arrangements finalised for events, displays or other activities at the Memorial.

As indicated by the Director at the Additional Estimates hearing, the Memorial has a number of “irons in the fire” with regard to sponsorship but nothing that can be confirmed at this stage.

- b) Over the years, there have been a number of sponsors and donors to the Memorial. The current listing on the Memorial's Donor Board is available on page 144-145 of the Annual Report 2008-09.

**Question 47**

**Australian War Memorial**

Topic: Construction

Written question

**Senator KROGER asked:**

Other than the construction for the National Servicemen's Memorial and the new Last Post Café, what other construction works are taking place at the Memorial?

**Answer**

The redevelopment of the Eastern Precinct, including the construction of a new café and the National Service memorial is almost completed. There are no other construction works currently taking place at the Memorial.

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### **Question 48**

#### **Australian War Memorial**

Topic: Capital projects

Written question

#### **Senator KROGER asked:**

What outstanding capital projects are there at the Memorial?

#### **Answer**

The redevelopment of the Eastern Precinct, including the construction of a new café and the National Service memorial, is almost completed. Plans have been completed and work has commenced for the half life refurbishment of the Second World War galleries and the Hall of Valor. All these projects are funded from capital funds in accordance with a long term plan. The development and implementation of an Enterprise Content Management System is also continuing and is partly funded from capital funds.

### **Question 49**

#### **Australian War Memorial**

Topic: Anzac Day 2010

Written question

#### **Senator KROGER asked:**

How will the Memorial commemorate Anzac Day this year?

a) Are there plans for travelling exhibitions?

#### **Answer**

The Memorial will host the Dawn Service, in close cooperation with RSL ACT, and the later National Anzac Day Ceremony.

Anzac Day will begin with the Dawn Service at the Memorial, a long standing Australian tradition commemorating the dawn landing on Gallipoli in 1915. The ceremony commences at 5:30am and is concluded by 6:30am. The Memorial's Commemorative Area opens 15 minutes after the Service concludes, and remains open until 8.30 am. This gives the public the opportunity to view the Tri-Service Guard mounted at the Tomb of the Unknown Australian Soldier as well as giving them the chance to lay a poppy on either the Tomb or against a particular name on the Roll of Honour.

The National Anzac Day Ceremony commences at 10.15am and includes a march by veterans of wars and peacekeeping deployments. The ceremony finishes with a flyover of aircraft from the Australian Defence Force. The National Ceremony is normally attended by VIPs such as the Governor-General and the Prime Minister of Australia. The Memorial opens 15 minutes after the completion of the National Ceremony, and remains open until 5 pm. The closing ceremony this

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year will include a speech by one of the Memorial's historians and will feature the dismount of the Tri-Service Guard and the playing of the Last Post, the One Minute Silence and the Rouse.

Based on past years, it is anticipated that 20,000—30,000 people will attend the Dawn Service and between 10,000 and 20,000 will attend the National Ceremony.

- a) There are no plans for a travelling exhibition specifically related to Anzac Day. However, the very successful travelling exhibition program, which is funded by the Minister for Veterans' Affairs' Commemoration Program, will continue. Full details of the program are available on the Memorial's website – [www.awm.gov.au](http://www.awm.gov.au).

### **Question 50**

#### **Australian War Memorial**

Topic: Gallipoli Centenary

Written question

#### **Senator KROGER asked:**

Can the War Memorial please explain its preliminary preparations for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Gallipoli in 2015?

#### **Answer**

The Memorial is represented on the Inter-Departmental Working Party (IDWP) that has been chaired by DVA to develop a whole of government approach to the centenary of the Gallipoli.

Council has, some time ago, considered a range of options whereby the Anniversary might be commemorated by the Memorial, and it is expected these will be considered by the IDWP in due course.

### **Question 51**

#### **Australian War Memorial**

Topic: Fromelles ceremony

Written question

#### **Senator KROGER asked:**

Will the Memorial hold a ceremony in Australia in conjunction with the Fromelles ceremony in July?

What does it have planned?

#### **Answer**

No, the Memorial does not have plans for a special ceremony in Australia in conjunction with the Fromelles ceremony in July.