

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES 2014**

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Australian Public Service Commission

**Outcome/Program:** Cross Portfolio

**Topic:** Consultancies

**Senator:** Ludwig

**Question reference number:** 178

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 11 April 2014

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

1. How many consultancies have been undertaken from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies. No other types of consultancies have been entered during the same period.
2. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.
3. Have any consultancies not gone out for tender?
  - a. If so, which ones and why?

**Answer:**

1. From Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to 28 February 2014, the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC) procured legal services on nine occasions from two legal service providers, Australian Government Solicitor (AGS) and Ashurst, some of which may be considered to be consultancies. All legal services were procured under the Legal Services Multi Use List. The duration of the services ranges from two days to over a period of seven months. The projected cost of the services covered by the contracts entered into is \$212,000.

Elements of these contracts concern matters that are not considered 'consultancies' but for the purposes of this question the contracts are reported in full with no attempt to separate components of the services which fall within the definition of consultancy.

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES 2014**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject matter</b>	<b>Duration (days)</b>	<b>Contract Price (\$ including GST)</b>	<b>Method of procurement</b>
Ashurst and AGS	Legal services	Various	212,000	Prequalified tender
	<b>Total Value</b>		<b>212,000</b>	

2. The APSC's 2013-2014 Annual Procurement Plan (APP) contains the establishment of four panels from which orders for consultancies may be sourced in the future.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Status</b>
Learning and Development Panel	Establishment of panel is nearing completion
Business Services Panel - Replaces existing panel arrangement	Establishment of panel is nearing completion
Research Services Panel	Establishment of panel is nearing completion
E-Learning Support Services and Solutions	Establishment of panel is nearing completion

Consultancies may be sourced through open, prequalified or limited tender procurement methods in accordance with the Commonwealth Procurement Rules.

A planned consultancy is not included in the Annual Procurement Plan (APP) if it is expected to be sourced from an existing panel or multi-use list, or where prequalified or limited tender procurement methods are permitted.

Since February 2014, the APSC has planned to enter into a consultancy as disclosed below:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject matter</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Estimated Price (\$ including GST)</b>	<b>Method of procurement</b>
Enzyme International (Australia)	Strategic directions and business improvement	3 months	201,000	Select tender off open approach panel
	<b>Total Value</b>		<b>201,000</b>	

3. All consultancies are sourced through tender processes. For legal services, the tender process is undertaken by seeking quotes from providers on the Legal Services Multi Use List.