

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Hearing 24 May-3rd June 2010

Question: PM69

Topic: Consultancies

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 July 2010

Number of pages: 2

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 cost of the contract, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc).

Please also include total value for all consultancies, including figures for total spending on consultancies and also value of contracts awarded? Provide total figures since November 2007 and a breakdown on these figures for FY 2008/09 and 2009/10 FYTD.

Answer:

The department responded to similar questions on notice following the February Senate Estimate hearings (PM 70a-b; PM73a-b). The following information is current at 29 June 2010.

Since November 2007 the Department entered into 55 consultancies, with a total contract value of \$3,421,836. Details of each consultancy with a contract valued at more than \$10,000 are published in the department's annual report and are also reported on AusTender (the Government's tender and procurement reporting system) at www.tenders.gov.au. Consultancy contracts valued at less than \$10,000 entered into since 1 July 2009 are not included in the above figures. It would be an unreasonable diversion of resources for the department to provide details of all consultancies valued at less than \$10,000.

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Hearing 24 May-3rd June 2010

Is the Department/agency up to date with its reporting requirements on the Government's tenders and contacts website? Are the figures available on that site correct?

Answer:

Details of reportable procurements are uploaded to AusTender fortnightly. The last such upload was undertaken on Tuesday 29 June.

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, projected cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.

Answer:

The APP for 2010-2011 does not include any consultancies. Consultancy contracts are usually entered into as the need arises, rather than as a result of long range future planning. The duration and cost of any consultancy and the name of the consultant remain unknown until the completion of the procurement process.

All answers should be current at the time the answer is submitted.

Answer:

All answers are current as at 29 June 2010.