

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of the Senate

Budget Estimates

26-30 May 2014

Question: 66

Topic: Consultancies

Written: 12 June 2014

Senator LUDWIG asked:

1. How many consultancies have been undertaken from Additional Estimates in February 2014 to date? Identify the:
 - a) name of the consultant;
 - b) the subject matter of the consultancy;
 - c) the duration and cost of the arrangement;
 - d) the method of procurement (i.e. open tender, direct source, etc.); and
 - e) the total value for all consultancies.
2. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year?
 - a) Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not?
 - b) 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? If so, which ones and why?

Answer:

1. The department has undertaken two consultancy arrangements, excluding legal advice, since 24 February 2014 at a cost of \$11,232 (Details of the department's expenditure on legal advice are in the response to Q18).

| Name of consultant | Subject matter | Cost/Value | Method of procurement |
|---|--|-------------------|------------------------------|
| David Caple & Associates Pty Ltd | Workstation ergonomic assessments and reports - MOPS Act officials | \$ 4,500 | Limited tender |
| Niche Government Consulting and Assurance | Rehabilitation management system audit | \$ 6,732 | Open tender |

In both cases, work is expected to be completed in the 2014-15 financial year.

2. The department is currently finalising its 2014-15 internal budgets. It is not known at this time if further consultancies will occur in 2014. Under the Commonwealth policy, an annual procurement plan (APP) is a statement of a department's significant planned procurements. Neither of the above consultancies were considered significant to the department or the market, and, as such, were not included in the department's APP.
3. No.