

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE12/0641) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash (written) asked:

How many companies did the department invite to participate in the tender process for the provision of goods and services on Manus and Nauru, including catering, cleaning, security and transport services? Was Transfield approached? Why? How were these contracts tendered? Who were they contracted to? Please go through the process? How was value for money decided? Who determined whether value for money was achieved? In relation to the Transfield contract, was anyone else asked to tender for that contract? If so who and what was the value of that contract?

Answer:

The department invited three companies to provide proposals for the provision of operational and maintenance services (which includes catering, cleaning, security and transport) on Nauru. These companies are:

- a) International Organisation for Migration (IOM)
- b) Serco, and
- c) Transfield Services (Australia) Pty Ltd.

IOM declined to submit a proposal, as they indicated they would be unable to provide the required services in the time frame imposed.

Serco, as the current provider onshore, was asked to provide a proposal for the management of the Regional Processing Centre on Nauru.

Transfield are on a Department of Defence panel for garrison support services, which includes catering, cleaning, security and transport and were asked to provide a proposal for delivery of services on Nauru.

The value for money assessment took into account a range of factors, including ability to stand-up quickly, understanding of the required services, staffing arrangements, quality of service and price. The Transfield proposal was considered by the delegate to provide better overall value for money. The urgency with which goods and services were required and the remoteness of the locations reduced the number of options available to the department.

A limited tender process was followed in line with Division 2 of the Commonwealth Procurement Rules (CPRs), with Transfield engaged under provision 10.3(b):

'where, for reasons of extreme urgency brought about by events unforeseen by the agency, the goods and services could not be obtained in time under open tender or prequalified tender'.

Manus Island

Five companies were invited to provide proposals for the provision of operational and maintenance services on Manus Island. These companies are:

- a) Serco
- b) Transfield Services (Australia) Pty Ltd
- c) Toll Global Resources
- d) HK Logistics Pty Ltd, and
- e) G4S.

Serco and HK Logistics Pty Ltd declined the invitation.

The value for money assessment took into account a range of factors, including ability to stand-up quickly, understanding of the required services, staffing arrangements, quality of service and price. The G4S proposal was considered by the delegate to provide the best overall value for money.

A limited tender process was followed in line with Division 2 of the Commonwealth Procurement Rules (CPRs), with G4S engaged under provision 10.3(b):

'where, for reasons of extreme urgency brought about by events unforeseen by the agency, the goods and services could not be obtained in time under open tender or prequalified tender'.