

APPENDIX 11

CONSULTANCIES AND SERVICE CONTRACTS

Appendix 11 provides information on consultancies and service contracts used by the ARC in 2001–02.

POLICY

The policy covering the selection and engagement of consultants and service providers is contained in DEST's Financial Management Manual (Section 6: Procurement) and its Procurement Manual.

The ARC engages consultants where a specialist skill or expertise is required and where internal resources are unavailable. Consultants are typically engaged to:

- investigate or diagnose a defined issue or problem
- carry out defined research, reviews or evaluations
- provide independent advice, information or creative solutions to assist the ARC in management decision making.

These consultancies are one particular type of service delivered under a contract for services. They have been distinguished from other contracts for services by the nature of the work performed, which typically involves the application of expert professional skills and the exercising of expert judgment.

By contrast, other (non-consultancy) contracts for services will typically be far more restrictive in the degree of latitude offered to the contractor. These types of contract may be characterised by a clear and tight specification of the form of product or service to be produced, or by a set of requirements that will be specified as to the manner in which the work is to be performed.

Consultancy Services

Table 62: Consultancy Services, 2001–02

CONSULTANT	CONSULTANCY TITLE	EXPENDITURE	CODE A	CODE B
		2001–02 (\$)		
Morison Consulting Pty Ltd	Chair of the ARC Finance and Audit Committee	14,080	SS	2
KPMG	Advice and services in relation to the ARC's transition to a prescribed agency	51,744	SS	2
KPMG	Tender evaluation process for the selection and implementation of the new financial management information system	15,840	IS	2
Splash Media	Media publicity, public relations and government liaison	7,700	SS	3
Splash Media	Media publicity, public relations and government liaison for the launch of ARC grants 2002	6,867	SS	3
Splash Media	Media publicity, public relations and government liaison for the launch of the Federation Fellowships	8,038	SS	3
Acumen Alliance	Evaluation of ARC's Application and Grants Management System	59,482	IS	3
Hon. Haddon Storey, QC	ARC Appeals Committee, 2001	4,200	SS	2
Professor Peter Harvey	ARC Appeals Committee, 2001	4,620	SS	2
Howard Partners and Ernst & Young	Feasibility and efficacy of commercialising research outcomes from ARC-funded research	81,102	IS	1
Association of University Technology Managers	Develop and support a survey project for the ARC	39,933	SS	3
TOTAL		284,786		

Code A: reason for use of consultancy services

IS need for independent study/evaluation

SS specialist skills were not otherwise available

Code B: reason for advertising or non-advertising of consultancy

1 advertised as a public invitation

2 not advertised; used thresholds in line with departmental Minimum Standard of Procurement

3 not advertised; obtained exemption based on: sole supplier, pre-eminent expertise or inexpediency

Service Contracts

Table 63: Service Contracts, 2001-02

CONTRACTOR	TITLE	EXPENDITURE
		2001-02 (\$)
Esaress Australia Pty Ltd	Recruitment exercise to select General Manager for the ARC	49,697
Ernst & Young	ARC business risk assessment, develop ARC Audit Committee supporting documentation and ARC Fraud Control Plan	38,877
Acumen Business Solutions	Implementation of new financial management information system	98,044
Hermes Precisa Pty Ltd	Electronic capture, index, storage and distribution of applications related to ARC National Competitive Grants Program 2002	196,139
Computer Contracting Services Pty Ltd	Senior systems tester	25,011
RMIT University	Application/systems support and maintenance for GAMS Stage 7 developments	68,063
RMIT University	Support and maintenance of computer software SIM and GAMS	13,716
Hon. Hadden Story, QC	ARC Appeals Committee, 2001	4,200
Professor Peter Harvey	ARC Appeals Committee, 2001	4,620
KPMG	Advice and services in relation to the ARC's transition to a prescribed agency	51,744
Secretariat Australia	Preparation of keynote address	1,980
Secretariat Australia	Preparation of opening address	5,616
Hermes Precisa Pty Ltd	Electronic capture, index, storage and distribution of applications related to ARC National Competitive Grants Program 2001	66,529
Clear Minded Consulting	Preparation of revised draft 2002 ARC Discovery-Projects Guidelines	2,750
Rengain	Establishment of ARC company codes in financial system	36,960
Mastech Asia Pacific Pty Ltd	Grants Management System Development ¹	136,685
Southern Cross Computing Pty Ltd	Grants Management System Development ¹	107,536
Icon Recruitment	Grants Management System Development ¹	139,226
TOTAL		995,649

¹ Contracts organised and managed by Information Technology Strategy and Services Group, Department of Education, Science and Training.