

Item 2

At item 2 of your FOI request 52/2015 you have sought access to the following:
2. A copy of any and all documentation detailing the number of times (broken down by financial year and amount) that ORIC direct-selected (instead of advertised public tender) for Mr Alan Eldridge (and or any other name he is known as).

In response to your request I advise that the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (the Registrar) or his office, the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC) is not required to advertise by public tender individual contracts for statutory work, such as examinations, special administrations or the provision of corporate governance training.

I advise that Mr Alan Eldridge and his firms have always been engaged by the Registrar or ORIC through a direct engagement process, usually following an expression of interest process, rather than through 'advertised public tender'. All engagements have been in accordance with the *Commonwealth's Procurement Policy and Guidelines*, including achieving value for money.

Item 3

At item 3 of your FOI request 52/2015 you have sought access to the following:
3. A copy of any and all documentation detailing on What (sic) probity, transparency and accountability checks ORIC carried out regarding Mr Alan Eldridge before engaging him (and or any other business entity and or name he is known as).

In response to your request I advise that the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations or his office, the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC) has in the past created panels of providers for the provision of statutory work, such as examinations, special administrations or corporate governance training.

Those panels are now defunct and no longer operative.

Alan Eldridge and Australian Indigenous Business Services were engaged on a number of historical panels created by the Registrar following public tender process RFT 632 conducted in 2008 and RFT665 in 2009. Details of the tenders can be viewed and downloaded at www.tenders.gov.au.

The panels were created in accordance with the *Commonwealth's Procurement Policy and Guidelines* and supervised by an independent probity adviser.

In the individual contractual engagements by the Registrar and ORIC of Mr Eldridge or his firms, referred to above in response to item 2, and the engagement of Mr Eldridge and his firms on the historical panels, I advise that the Registrar and ORIC did not conduct any 'probity, transparency and accountability checks'.