

PART 6

Purchasing and contracting

Performance against core purchasing policies

'Value for money' is the core principle underpinning Australian Government procurement. The Federal Magistrates Court is a relatively small government agency and its primary strategy for obtaining value for money is to join with larger agencies where possible, when contracting goods and services. In particular, the Federal Court and the Family Court provide registry and infrastructure services to the Federal Magistrates Court and, wherever practical, the Court joins contracts put in place by those courts. This enables the Court to obtain the buying power of larger contracts.

Leaving aside these larger contracts, purchasing undertaken by the Court falls below the procurement thresholds outlined in the Commonwealth procurement guidelines.

The Federal Magistrates Court does not have any contracts relating to the outsourcing of government activities under the Commonwealth's competitive tendering and contracting policy.

Advertising and market research

A total of \$89,052 was paid to HMA Blaze Integrated Communications during 2006-07 for recruitment advertising.

In 2006-07 Profmark Consulting Pty Ltd was engaged to provide survey advice at a cost of \$2,860.

Consultancy services

During 2006-07 consultancy expenses were incurred totalling \$663,154. Further details are included at Appendix F.