



Our Ref: PQ 57656/25

4th November 2025

Mr. Eoin Hayes T.D.

Dáil Éireann

Leinster House

Kildare Street

Dublin 2

Dear Eoin,

I refer to Parliamentary Question 57656/25 answered on the 22nd October 2025:

“To ask the Minister for Enterprise; Tourism and Employment the total number of service contracts awarded to private consultancy firms, broken down by projects in IT, management, accounting and auditing, Department and cost, each year to date since 2000, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter”.

The response indicated that additional time would be needed to obtain the requested information. This information has now been collated and is set out in tabular form attached from 2012. It is not possible to provide accurate financial information in the format requested for the period prior to this as the Programme Budgeting Model does not allow for the retrieval of such data prior to its introduction in 2012.

The tables indicate the contracts awarded to private consultancy firms in the categories IT, auditing and management consultancy (taken to include commissioned consultancy research and reports). There were no contracts awarded to private consultancy firms in the area of accounting during the time period.

My Department considers engaging consultancy services in cases where there is not the necessary expertise to deliver a project in-house, in cases where an external assessment is deemed essential, or in cases where a project must be completed within a short time scale, and although the expertise or experience may be available in-house, performing the task would involve a prohibitive opportunity cost. My Department complies with the Department

of Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Delivery and Reform's guidelines for engagements of consultants by the civil service, having regard to public procurement guidelines.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter Burke', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Peter Burke T.D.

Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment

1. IT service contracts awarded to private consultancy firms 2012 – present

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of Contracts</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>
2016	1	€42,937
2017	1	€44,226
2018	2	€111,717
2019	2	€65,633

2. Audit service contracts awarded to private consultancy firms 2012 – present

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of Contracts</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>
2014	1	€8,610
2015	2	€17,804
2016	2	€30,504
2017	1	€50,088
2018	1	€54,000
2019	2	€80,317
2020	1	€8,349
2021	2	€38,158
2022	1	€47,970
2023	0	0
2024	2	€80,070
2025 to date	1	€10,793

3. Management consultancy contracts (including research and reports) awarded to private consultancy firms 2012 – present

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of Contracts</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>
2012	2	€164,290
2013	2	€41,045
2014*	20	€961,018
2015	7	€383,777
2016	8	€488,071
2017	14	€1,151,341
2018	8	€414,619
2019	8	€449,382
2020	10	€836,729
2021	8	€390,959
2022	12	€687,844
2023	13	€955,180
2024	12	€765,037
2025 to date	6	€423,581

*in 2014, the functions of Forfás, the National Policy Advisory Board, were transferred to DETE including responsibility for their commissioned consultancy and research projects.