

Hot Issue Brief Tracking System

HIB Number: 001048
Date/Time Transmitted: 09/10/2012 17:35
Subject: DEFENCE ACT CATERING SERVICES CONTRACT
Comment:
Group: DSG

DEFENCE ACT CATERING SERVICES CONTRACT

NATURE OF THE INCIDENT:

- An Administrator was appointed in the ACT Supreme Court on 9 October 2012 following applications by the Commissioner for ACT Revenue v Wrights Fine Food; Ten and a Half and Fiona Wright; and the Commissioner for ACGT Revenue v W Catering.
- Wrights Fine Foods Pty Ltd is the Service Provider under the Defence ACT Catering Services Contract.
- There have been no compliance or performance issues in the delivery of services to Defence.
- Wrights Fine Foods staff working at Defence sites in Canberra have not yet been informed.
- Defence understands that there are sufficient supplies for café services to continue at Defence sites until the end of this week.
- Discussions will occur between Defence and the Administrator regarding continued service provision in the short term to enable longer term arrangements to be put in place.
- Since July 2012, there have been ongoing issues between ATO revenue and the supplier to work through a repayment plan. Wrights Fine Foods advised Defence approximately a month ago that a repayment agreement was being negotiated, however, based on today's outcome the issue has not been resolved.

ACTIONS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY:

- SG will meet with the Administrator tomorrow to discuss a way forward and ensure that café services continue to be delivered to Defence sites in Canberra.
- Assistance, if needed, is available to employees of Wright Fine Foods Pty Ltd under schemes such as the General Employee Entitlements and Redundancy Scheme administered by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations as well as the appropriate mechanisms for employees to lodge non-payment of PAYG superannuation with the Australian Taxation Office.

RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- Wrights Fine Foods Pty Ltd currently delivers services to R1, R2, R5 and Campbell Park offices under the ACT Catering Services contract.

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Date Issued: 9 October 2012

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