

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2016-17

Finance Portfolio
28 February 2017

Department/Agency: ASC Pty Ltd
Outcome/Program: General
Topic: Reduction in employees

Senator: Gallacher

Question reference number: F2

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Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator GALLACHER: Mr Lamarre, we know that there has been a loss of 130 positions. Has that all taken effect? On 6 January 2017 The Advertiser and The Australian reported that 130 trade positions would be lost by the end of February. Have those 130 positions been affected?

Mr Lamarre: Yes, they have.

Senator GALLACHER: Did they include apprentices?

Mr Lamarre: I cannot tell you if there were any apprentices on that list.

Senator GALLACHER: Perhaps you could take that on notice. How many of the 130 were achieved via forced redundancies or voluntary separations?

Mr Lamarre: I do not have the exact figures. We will have to get back to you with the specifics, but the number of 130 that was announced turned out to be fewer, because there were a number of other vacancies that we had in other trades in other parts of the program, and we were able to move people over and save those jobs. For example, 10 electricians who were working on the ship program went back to the submarine program, where they had originally started.

Senator GALLACHER: Excellent.

Mr Lamarre: It is typical, as we go through this six-week process of announcing what we always hope are the worst case job losses over a period of time, that we are able to place people in other jobs as best as possible. We also had—again, I do not have the specific figures—a significant amount of volunteer layoffs, if you will. That is another thing that we will do—ask for volunteers as we go through that process.

Senator GALLACHER: Perhaps if you could take on notice the break-up. It is pleasing to hear that people sought other opportunities within the organisation, but if we are relying on a report that says 130, it would be useful if you could tell us how many apprentices, who got work elsewhere and how many, if any, were forced.

Mr Lamarre: Okay.

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Senator GALLACHER: Thank you, Minister. Mr Lamarre, if we could get the information on notice about the 130 that have gone.

Answer:

The reductions carried out in January and February 2017 involved 22 voluntary redundancies and six involuntary redundancies. No apprentices employed by ASC Shipbuilding were affected by the redundancies.