

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-14, 20 November 2013

Question: E13-091

OUTCOME: 0 – Whole of Portfolio

Topic: Ministerial Office Staffing

Type of Question: Hansard Page 112, 20 November 2013

Senator: McLucas

Question:

- a) How many departmental staff are currently working in the offices of both Minister Nash and Minister Dutton?
- b) How many staff are on 'loan' to the ministerial offices?
- c) How many staff have come through MOP(S)?
- d) Are there any graduates working in the ministerial offices?

Answer:

a) – b)

The Handbook of Ministers of State Entitlements 2012 enables departments to provide relief staff for a period of up to 12 weeks to Parliamentary Offices, to cover times of staff absences. The Department of Health has provided temporary staffing including during the establishment period of ministerial offices as a result of Minister/Government changes.

As at 20 November 2013 departmental staffing in the portfolio ministerial offices for both Departmental Liaison Officer positions and to provide relief staffing of designated Members of Parliament Staff positions was as follows:

Office	DLO Numbers	Other Dept Staff in MO
Minister Dutton	2	1
Minister Nash	1	2
Total	3	3

- c) As at 20 November 2013 one departmental officer had commenced employment under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984*.
- d) There are no graduates working in ministerial offices.