

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

4 – 6 June 2013

Question: BET 1203-1208

Topic: Public Service Efficiencies

Written: 17 June 2013

Senator BUSHBY asked:

1203. Please provide details of the amended operational efficiencies your agency will make as per the 2013-14 Budget Measure 'Public Service efficiencies' (see 2013-14 Budget Paper No. 2, page 108).
1204. In addition, please provide the following detail:
- a. Can you quantify the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates for savings achieved by implementing more efficient management structures, through a reduction in expenditure on staff across the Executive Level (EL) 1 and 2, and Senior Executive Service (SES) levels?
 - b. Can you quantify the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates for savings achieved by revising down the occupational density target for all new leases, buildings and major fit-outs undertaken by agencies from 16 square metres per occupied workpoint down to 14 square metres?
1205. Has there been a reduction in business flights?
- a. What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
1206. Has there been a reduction in the use of external consultants and contractors?
- a. Has this impacted on the department/agency, and how?
 - b. What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
1207. Provide an update of moving recruitment advertising online.
- a. Is any recruitment still in printed materials, and if yes, why?
 - b. What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
1208. Has the department/agency reduced its printing costs?
- a. If not, why not?
 - b. Have printing costs increased, and if yes, why and by how much?
 - c. Has the five per cent savings target been achieved – if yes, how, or if it will not be achieved, why not?
 - d. What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

4 – 6 June 2013

Answer:

1203. The commission will comply with the Direction and continue to manage within its appropriations, but apart from some administrative savings such as printing, has no further specific plans.
- 1204.
- a. Please refer to DOFD's response to question F10 from Finance and Public Administration Committee.
 - b. No new leases anticipated.
1205. Business flights are undertaken for operational purposes and because of the inherent uncertainties, estimates cannot be accurately made.
1206. No.
- a. There has been no impact on the Commission.
 - b. Use of consultants is already minimal and only modest savings can be expected.
1207. a. The Commission has already moved to online recruitment advertising.
b. No further savings are expected.
1208. Yes.
- a. NA
 - b. Printing costs have not increased.
 - c. The 5% savings target has been achieved by reducing the print run of a major report.
 - d. Continuing this practice will save some \$6000 pa.