

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000342

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Contracts for temporary staff

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. How much did the department/agency spend on temporary or contract staff?
2. How many temporary or contract staff have been employed?
3. What is the total number of temporary or contract staff currently employed?
4. How much was paid for agencies/companies to find temporary/contract staff?
5. Have there been any changes to the policies/criteria that govern the appointment of contract staff?

Answer

The department captures data as at the end of each month.

Between 1 September 2015 and 31 January 2016 the department engaged 66 non-ongoing employees under the Public Service Act 1999. As at 31 January 2016 the Department employed a total of 88 non-ongoing employees.

Decisions and budgets relating to the engagement of non-ongoing employees and third party contractors are devolved to line areas in the department. As such manually collating the total number of contractors and expenditure on non-ongoing employees and contractors would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

Since 14 September 2015 there have been no changes to the policies/criteria that govern the appointment of contract staff.