

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 18-22 November 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Communications staff

Senator: Senator the Hon Joe Ludwig

Question reference number: 168

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 17 January 2014

Number of pages: 2

Question:

1. For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:

By Department or agency:

- a) How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.
- b) How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location
- c) How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location
- d) How many are graphic designers?
- e) How many are media managers?
- f) How many organise events?

2. Do any departments/agencies have independent media studios?

- a) If yes, why?
- b) When was it established?
- b) What is the set up cost?
- c) What is the ongoing cost?
- d) How many staff work there and what are their classifications?

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Answer:

Question 1:

1. As at the date of the Estimates hearings, the Department did not have a central public affairs/communications area, but did have some staff whose primary duties were communications, as set out below.

Type of work undertaken	Staff type	Classification	Location
Communications	Ongoing	SES Band 1	New Communications Branch
Communications	Ongoing	EL2	G20 Taskforce, PM&C
Communications	Ongoing	EL2	COAG Reform Council
Communications	Ongoing	APS6	COAG Reform Council
Communications	Ongoing	APS4	COAG Reform Council

As a result of the machinery of government changes on 18 September 2018, the Department will have a dedicated communications branch and more communications staff. The details are not fully settled.

Question 2:

PM&C does not have an independent media studio.