

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Additional Estimates Hearings February 2014**

**Communications Portfolio**

**Department of Communications**

**Question No: 373**

**Program No. Corporate**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Staffing reductions**

**Senator Ludwig asked:**

1. How many staff reductions/voluntary redundancies have occurred from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? What was the reason for these reductions?
2. Were any of these reductions involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.
3. Are there any plans for further staff reductions/voluntary redundancies? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut.
4. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.
5. Are there any plans for involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.
6. How many ongoing staff left the Department/Agency from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? What classification were these staff?
7. How many non-ongoing staff left Department/Agency from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? What classification were these staff?

**Answer:**

1. A total of 38 staff have left the Department over the period 1 November 2013 to 31 January 2014 and not been replaced. The reason for these reductions are shown in the table below.

<b>Reason</b>	<b>Number of staff</b>
Completion of Non-Ongoing contract	9
Voluntary Redundancy	5
Ongoing transfer to / Other agency	17
Resignation from APS	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>

2. There have been no involuntary redundancies during the reporting period.
- 3-4. See answer to Senate Estimates Question on Notice No 329 from the Additional Estimates Hearings February 2014.
5. The process outlined in Senate Estimates Question on Notice No 329 may result in involuntary redundancies.
6. A total of 24 Ongoing staff have left the Department over the period 1 November 2013 to 31 January 2014 and the classifications were as follows:

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Number of staff</b>
APS4	1
APS5	2
APS6	7
EL1	8
EL2	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>

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7. A total of 14 Non-Ongoing staff have left the Department over the period 1 November 2013 to 31 January 2014 and the classifications were as follows:

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Number of staff</b>
APS3	1
APS4	5
APS5	2
APS6	3
EL1	2
EL2	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>