

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 186

**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates

**Outcome:** Corporate

**Programme:** Policy and Communications Division

**Topic:** Portfolio Wide – Communications Staff

**Hansard Page:** N/A

**Question Date:** 27 November 2013

**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Ludwig asked:**

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?

**Answer:**

- 1a) Departmental and agency communication staff provide a range of internal and external communications services.

The work of communications staff includes the development of material to communicate policies and programmes, the development of communication strategies and plans, stakeholder engagement activities, media and social media liaison, monitoring and engagement, liaison with the offices of the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary, issues management, events management, sponsorship management, publication development and advertising advice.

The Department of the Environment (the Department) public affairs work is undertaken by Public Affairs Officers in the Public Affairs Unit, Communications and Ministerial Services Branch. Portfolio agency staff have a combination of Public Affairs Officers and APS classified staff to deliver public affairs work.

Unless otherwise indicated, the following figures are expressed as full time equivalent ongoing staff and are current at October 2013.

**The Department (Canberra): 27**

Senior Public Affairs Director Grade 2:	1
Senior Public Affairs Director Grade 1:	5
Public Affairs Officer Grade 3 (5 part-time):	10
Public Affairs Officer Grade 2:	7
Public Affairs Officer Grade 1:	4

**The Department (Darwin/Jabiru): 4**

Executive Level 1 (part-time):	1
APS 6 (part-time):	1
APS 5 (part-time):	1
APS 5 (part-time):	1

**Australian Antarctic Division (Tasmania): 8**

Executive Level 2*:	1
Public Affairs Officer Grade 3:	1
Public Affairs Officer Grade 2:	1
APS 6:	3
APS 5:	1
APS 4:	1

\* EL 2 Director of Communications is also responsible for managing non-communications staff.

**Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne): 16**

Executive Level 2:	4
Executive Level 1:	5
APS 6:	3
APS 5:	3
APS 3:	1

**Bureau of Meteorology (Canberra): 1**

Executive Level 2:	1
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**Bureau of Meteorology (Hobart): 1**

Executive Level 1:	1
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**Bureau of Meteorology (Sydney): 1**

Executive Level 1:	1
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**Bureau of Meteorology (Brisbane): 1**

Executive Level 1:	1
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**Bureau of Meteorology (Darwin): 1**

Executive Level 1:	1
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**Bureau of Meteorology (Perth): 1**

Executive Level 1:	1
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**Bureau of Meteorology (Adelaide): 1**

Executive Level 1:	1
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**Clean Energy Regulator (Canberra): 15**

Executive Level 2:	1
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Executive Level 1:	8
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APS 6:	3
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APS 5:	3
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**Climate Change Authority (Canberra): 0****Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): 9**

Executive Level 2:	1
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Executive Level 1:	2
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APS 6:	1
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APS 5:	2
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APS 4:	2
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APS 3:	1
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**Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): 11**

Executive Level 2:	2*
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Executive Level 1:	5
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APS6:	4
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\*One EL2 Director is only responsible for managing communications staff 50% of the time.

**National Water Commission (Canberra): 3**

Executive Level 2:	1
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Public Affairs Officer Grade 3 (part-time):	1
APS6 (part-time)	1

**Director of National Parks (Canberra): 5**

Senior Public Affairs Director Grade 1:	1
Public Affairs Officer Grade 3 (part-time):	2
Public Affairs Officer Grade 2:	1
APS 6:	1

**Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): 0**

1b) Unless otherwise indicated, the following figures are expressed as full time equivalent non-ongoing staff and are current at October 2013.

**The Department (Canberra): 0**

**The Department (Darwin/Jabiru): 1**

APS 5 (part-time):	1
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**Australian Antarctic Division (Tasmania): 0**

**Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne): 8**

Executive Level 1:	4
APS 6:	2
APS 5:	2

**Clean Energy Regulator (Canberra): 1**

APS 5:	1
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**Climate Change Authority (Canberra): 0**

**Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): 2**

APS 6:	1
APS 5:	1

**Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): 0**

**National Water Commission (Canberra): 1**

EL1 (part-time)	1
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**Director of National Parks (Canberra): 1**

APS 6: 1

**Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): 1**

APS 6: 1

1c) Unless otherwise indicated, the following figures are expressed as full time equivalent contractors and are current at October 2013.

**The Department: 0**

**The Department (Darwin/Jabiru): 0**

**Australian Antarctic Division (Tasmania): 0**

**Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne): 3**

APS 6: 1

APS 5: 1

APS 4: 1

**Clean Energy Regulator (Canberra): 0**

**Climate Change Authority (Canberra): 0**

**Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): 0**

**Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): 1**

**National Water Commission (Canberra): 0**

**Director of National Parks (Canberra): 0**

**Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): 0**

1d) Unless otherwise indicated, the following figures are expressed as full time equivalent graphic designers and are current at October 2013.

**The Department (Canberra): 1**

**The Department (Darwin/Jabiru): 0**

**Australian Antarctic Division (Tasmania): 3\***

Three multimedia staff have graphic design qualifications. This makes up about one third of their work tasks. They work across a number of media supporting a range of communications products including print, video and other digital media.

\* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to question 1a.

**Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne): 3\***

\* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to questions 1a and 1b. Graphic design is considered to be a communication function.

**Clean Energy Regulator (Canberra): 1\***

\*This position is not additional to the figures provided in response to question 1a.

**Climate Change Authority (Canberra): 0**

**Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): 1\***

\* This position is not additional to the figures provided in response to question 1a.

**Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): 1\***

\* This position is not additional to the figures provided in response to question 1a.

**National Water Commission (Canberra): 0**

**Director of National Parks (Canberra): 0**

**Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): 0**

1e) Unless otherwise indicated, the following figures are expressed as full time equivalent media managers whose core responsibility is media management. These figures are current at October 2013.

**The Department (Canberra): 0**

Departmental communication staff provide a range of internal and external communications services, which may include media management and liaison as part of their duties. The figures for departmental communications staff are provided in the response to question 1a.

**The Department (Darwin/Jabiru): 0**

The figures for departmental (Darwin/Jabiru) communications staff are provided in the response to questions 1a-f.

**Australian Antarctic Division (Tasmania): 2\***

\* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to question 1a.

**Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne): 10\***

\* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to question 1 a). Media management is considered to be part of a number of positions' overall duties. Each region has a person who is media trained and available to help with media enquiries however their primary role is operational.

**Clean Energy Regulator (Canberra): 1\***

\*This position is not additional to the figures provided in response to question 1a.

**Climate Change Authority (Canberra): 0**

**Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): 2\***

\* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to question 1a.

**Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): 1\***

\* This position is not additional to the figures provided in response to question 1a.

**National Water Commission (Canberra): 0**

There are no positions in the National Water Commission that have media management as their sole responsibility, however two of the above listed staff members have media management responsibilities in addition to a number of other duties.

**Director of National Parks**

The figures for communication staff are provided in the response to question 1a.

In addition, Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park has one APS 5 and one APS 4 processing film and photography permits and accompanying film crews on the ground and Kakadu National Park has a part time APS 4 who processes media permits and facilitates film crews on the ground.

**Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): 0**

- 1f) Unless otherwise indicated, the following figures are expressed as full time equivalent event managers whose only responsibility is event management. These figures are current at October 2013.

**The Department: 0**

Departmental communication staff provide a range of internal and external communications services, which may include event management as part of their duties. The figures for departmental communication staff are provided in the response to question 1a.

**The Department (Darwin/Jabiru): 0**

The figures for departmental (Darwin/Jabiru) communications staff are provided in the response to questions 1a-f.

**Australian Antarctic Division (Tasmania): 1\***

\* This position is not additional to the figures provided in response to question 1a.

**Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne): 1.5\***

\* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to questions 1a and 1b. Event management is considered part of responsibilities for seven staff. The actual commitment varies between 10 and 30 per cent of their total duties.

**Clean Energy Regulator (Canberra): 2\***

\*These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to question 1a.

**Climate Change Authority (Canberra): 0**

**Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): 8\***

\* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to questions 1a and b.

**Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): 0**

**National Water Commission (Canberra): 0**

There are no positions in the National Water Commission that have event management as a core responsibility however communication staff may be involved in organising events from time to time.

**Director of National Parks (Canberra)**

The figures for communication staff are provided in the response to question 1a.

**Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): 2**

APS 6:

2