

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Budget Estimates Hearing—May 2014**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Contracts for Temporary Staff**

Question: **259**

Written: **Senator Ludwig**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 July 2014

1. How much did the department/agency spend on temporary or contract staff since September 7th 2013?
2. How many temporary or contract staff were employed since September 7th 2013?
3. How many temporary or contract staff are currently employed?
4. How much was paid for agencies/companies to find temporary/contract staff?
5. How much is budgeted in the 2014/15 year for contract staff?
6. What policies/criteria govern the appointment of Contract staff?
7. How is the use of contract staff consistent with a professional, independent public service?

Answer

1. \$2,128,510.
2. 34 contract staff employed since 7 September, 2013.
3. 29 contract staff employed as at 30 June 2014.
4. Nil.
5. \$2.75 million.
6. All appointments of contract staff are undertaken in accordance with the Commonwealth Procurement Rules ensuring value for money, ethical behaviour and accountability and transparency in decision making.

Clause 50 of the DPS Enterprise Agreement contains a commitment to comply with the Fair Work Principles January 2010, published by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations or any successor documents.

7. Contract staff are used to meet demands on an as required basis to cover specialist roles, positions requiring temporary filling ensuring the effective delivery of services is able to be maintained. Commonwealth Procurement Rules are adhered to at all times.